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CONTENTS : Vol. XLIX, No. 2.

	PAGE		PAGE
Baukrup'cy Reports	42	English Drug-crops.....	54
Botanical	54	English News	36
Business Changes	44	Foreign and Colonial News	39
Correspondence :—		French News	38
Children's Doses: Chloroquine in Egypt; Risks of Head- ache-powders: Admission of British Specimens into France; Carter's Little Liver-pill's; Essence of Lemon	59	Gazette	43
Dispensing Notes	59	Insects which Attack Drugs ..	47
Legal Queries	60	Irish News	37
Miscellaneous Inquiries	60	Legal Reports	42
Information Supplied	62	Marriages	45
Deaths	45	New Books	54
Deed of Arrangement	43	New Companies and Company News	43
Editorial Comments :—		Next Week	62
The Importation of Proprietary Articles into France	48	Personalities	53
The New Duty on Cocoa- butter	50	Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain :—	
An M.P. on the Shops (Early- closing) Bill	51	North British Branch	40
Fatal Formulae: How to Get More Legislation	51	Pharmaceutical Society of Ire- land :—	
Borax Soap; The Defacement of Prescriptions: West-end Taste; A Famous Material- Medic' Collection	52	Council Meeting	40
		Pharmacy in Haiti	54
		Practical Notes and Formulee ..	45
		Scotch News	38
		The Art of Pharmacists	46
		The Assistant in South Africa ..	53
		Trade-marks Applied for	41
		Trade Notes	44
		Trade Reports	55
		Up-to-Date Perfumes	53

“VETERINARY COUNTER-PRACTICE.”

WE have recently published a new edition of this work. It has been thoroughly revised, enlarged in some chapters, and more than a hundred new prescriptions included in it. The price remains the same—3s. 6d., or by post 3s. 9d. It can be obtained from the leading wholesale and sundries houses at the published price.

A MODERN NECESSITY.

IF there is one thing which experience has proved it is that advertising is a business necessity. No trade can be done without advertising of some kind. It is chiefly in the selection of the method that business houses differ. The modern method is to advertise in influential journals, and, so far as the drug-trade of the British Empire is concerned, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is *facile princeps* in circulation and influence. Such advertising is indisputably good for bringing and creating business, and is a great assistance to the advertisers' travellers or other methods of pushing business. As to advertising by circular, we wish it to be known that we can accept circulars and price-lists for stitching in

OUR SUMMER ISSUE

to be published on July 25. This is an excellent way of distributing such matters, as it ensures their preservation for reference, and they go to the best people, as our registers and lists of traders are better than those otherwise available. The conditions upon which we receive circulars, &c., for insertion can best be explained by letter to those who think of inserting one, and our Publisher will be glad to hear from them.

Summary.

A FEW formulae for specialities are printed on p. 45.

A FURTHER report upon the English herb-crop is printed on p. 54.

WE give some particulars of the new pharmacy school in Liverpool on p. 36.

ATTENTION is called on p. 51 to another dangerous error in prescribing by one of the new penny papers “for the home.”

AMONGST our pages this week is one (p. 46) containing a further selection of designs submitted by subscribers for “headings.”

A FRENCH doctor is accumulating proof that Tesla's high-frequency electric current has a beneficial influence upon diabetes (p. 38).

THERE were fewer failures of chemists and druggists during the first half of this year than in the corresponding period of 1895 (p. 36).

SIR JAMES SAWYER, M.D., is of opinion that pharmacists should make medicated soaps at the dispensing-counter *secundum artem* (p. 52).

THE British Pharmaceutical Conference has so far had the offer of a dozen papers, which promise to provide good food for discussion (p. 36).

WE give an abstract of an article, lately published by the President of the Early-closing Association, on the Shops (Early Closing) Bill (p. 51).

OUR PARIS correspondent gives further particulars of the organisation of pharmacy students there. The promoters have high ambitions (p. 38).

MR. J. L. EWING has been reappointed Chairman, and MR. W. L. CURRIE Vice-Chairman, of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 40).

FRENCH scientists have investigated the allegations about oysters causing typhoid fever, and propose restrictions on the output of the succulent molluscs (p. 38).

THE mutilation of the prescription by chemists' stamps vexes a West-end practitioner, who calls upon the Pharmaceutical Society to make a ruling in the matter (p. 52).

A LIVERPOOL chemist reports how he was nearly had by the rather too astute representative of a cutting firm in that city on the advance in price of Carter's pills (p. 59).

WE print an abstract of a paper by Professor SAYRE, a well-known American pharmacist, showing the insects which attack drugs, and giving a list of drugs which are not so affected (p. 47).

AN important case in regard to London dock dues, which affects the interests of the wholesale drug-trade, has been decided by Mr. Commissioner Kerr in favour of the Dock Company (p. 42).

A PUBLIC ANALYST'S certificate was successfully objected to at Loughborough on the ground that he stated some mustard contained 6 per cent. of flour, but did not say what the remaining 94 per cent. consisted of (p. 42).

THE Government has decided to impose an import-duty on cocoa-butter, which has hitherto escaped the duty imposed upon raw cocoa. We have ascertained that British manufacturers are generally in favour of the Government's action (p. 50).

MR. A. H. ALLEN, in his report as public analyst to the West Riding of Yorkshire, deplores the delay in bringing in an Amending Bill to the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and indicates that some of the drugs analysed by him during the past quarter were of poor quality (p. 38).

THE difficulties of getting English proprietary medicines into France are commented upon in an article on p. 48, wherein we also refer to the views of several exporters. One notable effect of recent French restrictions is that English visitors feel them, and take their sojourn elsewhere, to France's detriment.



The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

Suicide of a Chemist's Warehouseman.

An inquest was held on July 1 at Stockport on the body of William Burgess, chemist's warehouseman, of Portwood. Burgess lived by himself, and some neighbours, looking in at the window of his house, noticed him lying motionless in bed. Dr. Bentley got through the window, and found Burgess dead. He had taken prussic acid, and ten letters relating to his rash act were found upon him.

Fatal Amateur Dispensing.

Arthur Escott, of Beeston, had a taste for mixing poisons. His mother told the coroner's jury on July 2 that he had arranged a laboratory of his own since relinquishing the chemistry classes at a London school. When he suffered from insomnia he made his own narcotics. The other night he mixed the bottles, and for a sleeping-draught took a dose of prussic acid.

Failures of Chemists and Druggists.

According to Mr. Richard Seyd's statistics, the number of chemists and druggists whose failures have been recorded in the United Kingdom during the first six months of 1896 was 27—namely, 12 by way of bankruptcy and 15 by means of deeds of arrangement. In the corresponding half-year of 1895 there were 10 bankruptcies of chemists and druggists and 22 deeds given by them. Two wholesale druggists were bankrupts in the first half of 1896, and in the first half of 1895 there was one bankrupt, and one who made an arrangement. The number of bankruptcies, deeds of arrangements, and Scotch trust deeds totals 4,851 in the first half of 1896, against only 4,579 in the first half of 1895.

Pharmaceutical Education in Liverpool.

The arrangements which the Liverpool University College have made for the education of young pharmacists appear to be modelled upon the lines followed in the Pharmaceutical Society's School. We briefly referred last week to the division of the academic year into Minor and Major courses; and we may now add that the College as a branch of the Victoria University is to have the same advantages as Owens College in regard to the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship. The following are the professors and lecturers of the new school:—

Chemistry:—Professor J. Campbell Brown, D.Sc., F.C.S., F.I.C.; T. Lewis Baily, Ph.D.; Samuel B. Schryver, B.Sc., Ph.D.; F. E. Francis, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Physics:—Professor Oliver J. Lodge, D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.; James L. Howard, D.Sc.

Botany:—Professor R. J. Harvey Gibson, M.A., F.L.S.; Charles E. Jones, B.Sc.

Materia Medica:—Professor W. Carter, LL.B., M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P.; Prosper H. Marsden, Ph.C., F.C.S.

Mr. Marsden will also take pharmacy. The curriculum is so arranged that students may take one or more subjects per session, or devote their whole time thereto. The lectures are given in the morning hours, with the exception of botany and chemistry, which will be in the afternoon, and students may arrange the hours for their practical work. Full particulars in regard to these matters are given in the prospectus, obtainable from the Registrar. The fees are moderate, and amount to 17*l.* for the Minor course, which may be spread over three sessions. The new school promises to give education of the highest class, and should be specially suitable for those in Liverpool and neighbourhood who appreciate the advantages of an extended over a compressed course of education.

Mr. A. H. Allen on the Sale of Food and Drugs Act

In his quarterly report to the Council of the West Riding of Yorkshire Mr. A. H. Allen remarks that "certain forms of adulteration which were not long since rife appear to have nearly, if not wholly, disappeared. This satisfactory condition is doubtless due to the systematic manner in which samples have been collected by the inspectors. The pecuniary gain to the inhabitants of the Riding by preventing the sale to them of adulterated and diluted articles at full price must be incomparably greater than the cost of carrying out the Act." Mr. Allen also deals with the committee's consideration of the Act. At the commencement of the present session of Parliament, he says, the Select Committee on Food Products Adulteration was re-appointed. Many members of the Committee, including the chairman, Mr. T. W. Russell, did not sit on it during previous sessions; but after a limited number of meetings they decided that they had heard sufficient evidence to enable them to make a report. As a consequence the application of the West Riding County Council that he should be called to give evidence was declined, and many other sanitary authorities who desired to be represented by witnesses were similarly refused a hearing. The Society of Public Analysts was represented only by Mr. Otto Hehner, but his evidence was so complete as to leave comparatively little to be said from a public analyst's point of view. The delay in bringing in an Amending Bill, Mr. Allen thinks, is much to be deplored, as the present Act is urgently in need of amendment in various material respects.

The drugs analysed during the quarter included 3 samples of linseed meal, 11 of quinine wine, 6 of tincture of rhubarb, 1 of paregoric, 1 of syrup of squills, 1 of syrup of rhubarb; 1 of chlorate-of-potash lozenges, and 2 of castor oil, which all proved to be genuine. Of 7 samples of olive oil 5 were genuine, 1 of suspicious character, and 1 contained 60 per cent. of cottonseed oil. Two samples of glycerine were of full strength and free from arsenic. A sample of chloroxyne lozenges was of indefinite composition. Four samples of compound liquorice-powder were in accordance with the B.P., but 2 of Gregory's powder were not prepared with calcined magnesia as directed by the B.P. A sample of tincture of myrrh was of inferior quality, and of 6 samples of sweet spirit of nitre 2 were of inferior quality, 2 of fair quality, 1 adulterated with 35 per cent. of added water, and 1 contained an excessive proportion of water and was very deficient in nitrous ether.

Conference Papers.

The following are the titles of the papers promised for the Liverpool meeting, July 28 and 29:—

1. "A Further Analysis of *Cactus grandiflorus*," by Gordon Sharp, M.B.
2. "Note on Unguentum Conii, B.P.," by R. Wright, F.C.S., and E. H. Farr, F.C.S.
3. "Note on the Strengths of Some of the Official Succi," by R. Wright, F.C.S., and E. H. Farr, F.C.S.
4. "Notes on Potass. Sulphuret, Formic Aldehyde, and Cotton-seed Oil," by W. Elborne, B.A., F.L.S., F.C.S.
5. "The Effect of Solvents on the Analytical Characters of Ginger," by J. F. Liverseege, F.I.C.
6. "Radiography," by Leo Atkinson.
7. "Rennet-essence," by J. A. Forret.
8. "A Safety Pipette," by E. W. Lucas, F.C.S.
9. "Cascarillin," by W. A. H. Naylor, F.I.C., and R. D. Littlefield.
10. "Oil of Japanese Fennel," by J. C. Umney, F.C.S.
11. "The Effects of Climate and Soil on Oils of Peppermint," by J. C. Umney, F.C.S.

Mr. Leo Atkinson is to give a demonstration of Röntgenography at the reception in the Walker Art Gallery on Monday evening.

Chemists at Cricket.

Barron Harveys' C.C. met Davy Yates' C.C. at Brockley on Saturday last, and won easily by 66 runs. Bowling for the B.H.C.C., G. A. Grant took six wickets for 4 runs and A. Halson took four wickets for 9 runs. The scores were: B.H.C.C., 82 (F. Stuchbury, 23; A. Halson, 15); D.Y.C.C., 16.

On Saturday, July 4, Burgoyne Burbidges' C.C. played their return match with May & Baker's C.C. on the former's ground at Willesden. Burgoyne Burbidges' C.C. scored 163, and May & Baker's C.C. 40. The chief scorers for the victors

were Argent (41) and Selwood (47), while Moxon bowled well, taking nine wickets for 21 runs.

Business Trips.

The Thornton-Pickard Manufacturing Company, makers of cameras and photo goods, took the whole of their staff from Altrincham to Southport on June 27. The party, which included wives, &c., of the men, numbered over 200, and were conveyed in five saloon carriages. Dinner and tea were provided by the firm, who also paid all the expenses of the journey. An enthusiastic vote of thanks was passed to them.

The employés of Messrs. Stevenson & Howell went for their annual excursion on Saturday last, July 4. A large party left London Bridge Station at an early hour by special train for Hastings. At the headquarters, Sea View Hotel, Warrior Square, Messrs. Stevenson & Howell had provided a sumptuous dinner and tea. After dinner the usual toasts were given, and a vote of thanks to the firm for their generosity was proposed and carried with much enthusiasm. Most of the party returned to London in the evening, after enjoying a lovely summer day at this popular seaside resort.

Messrs. Raimes & Co., York, gave their annual "outing," after stocktaking, to their representatives, clerks, assistants, and other employés, on Saturday, July 4. The party proceeded in waggonettes to Castle Howard, where arrangements had been made for viewing the celebrated picture-galleries; after which the gardens and splendid avenues were visited. They afterwards adjourned to the Crown and Cushion Hotel, Welburn, where a substantial repast was provided. The excursion was accompanied by Mr. S. Scruton and Mr. W. C. Birks, members of the firm, the former of whom presided.

A Dispenser Poisoned.

At Lambeth, on Monday, Mr. Braxton Hicks held an inquest on the body of Arthur Skeate White, aged 27, a medical dispenser, who died from the effects of narcotic poisoning on Friday. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, who was assistant to Dr. Tanner, of Newington Causeway, had been in the habit of taking narcotics, and on Thursday, July 2, he was found in a stupefied condition sitting on the footpath at Kennington Cross. He was removed to the hospital, but died the next day. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure.

Assault on a Chemist.

At the Mansion House Police Court on Tuesday, before Mr. Alderman Faudel Phillips, Thomas Baxter (35), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with committing an assault. Alexander Murray, a manufacturing chemist, of Blackfriars Road, stated that on Monday night he took a seat on the Victoria Embankment, and the prisoner, who was next to him, asked him for a pipe of tobacco. Witness placed his hand in his pocket to see if he had got any, whereupon the accused struck him in the mouth and followed it up with other blows, bruising his face and breaking his false teeth; his lip was also cut. He had never seen prisoner before in his life. The prisoner was remanded.

Carbolic-acid Poisonings.

The procession of carbolic-acid victims still continues, and the poison remains unscheduled. Since our last we have noted the following deaths from it:—

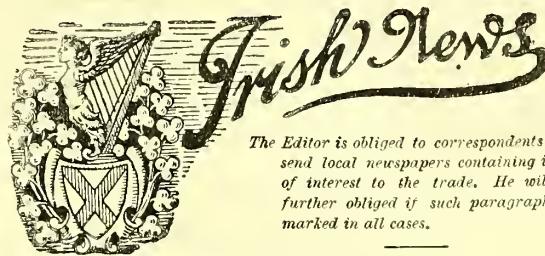
A child named Johnston, 2 years of age, died at Kinross from drinking some which he found in an attic.

George Francis Feltham (25), a seaman, committed suicide at Dalston on July 2 by drinking a draught of carbolic acid.

George Harris (46), a pensioner from the Royal Marine Artillery, who kept a grocer's shop at Southsea, was found on Saturday morning on the pavement dying from the effects of carbolic acid which he had taken.

A woman named Williams, who had been drinking a good deal, took a draught of carbolic acid at Oldham last Saturday. She was taken to the infirmary, and not expected to recover.

At Portsmouth, on July 1, Charles Mason, landlord of the Red Lion public-house, Southsea, after a quarrel with his wife, swallowed a dose of carbolic acid, and died from the effects.



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Business Changes.

Messrs. Twinem Brothers have taken over the business of Mr. John Darcy at 31 Lower Clanbrassil Street, Dublin.

Mr. W. D. O'Regan, L.P.S.I., has opened a medical hall at Bridge Street, Tralee, co. Kerry.

Mr. Gibson, L.P.S.I., late of Messrs. McKnight's pharmacy, Belfast, has been appointed manager of Vance's medical hall, Harcourt Road, Dublin.

Bookselling.

A collection of many thousand volumes which belonged to the late Dr. Corry, pharmacist, Belfast, is announced to come under the hammer of the public auctioneer on July 27.

An Unfounded Charge of Slander.

At the Coleraine Quarter Sessions on July 1, David Gardiner, a labourer, and his wife, Sarah Gardiner, sued James Mullan, a drug-merchant, of Castlerock, claiming £200 damages for alleged slander. The case arose out of an affair that occurred in 1892, when the plaintiff's wife was employed as charwoman in the family of the Rev. Dr. Irwin, Castlerock, and some tartar emetic was sold in the defendant's establishment to some members of that family in mistake for tartaric acid. Some inconvenience was caused in the household, but no serious results followed. Plaintiff's wife, who had taken some of the emetic, gave birth to a child about a fortnight later, and the child died shortly after birth, an inquest being held on it. The plaintiff, who was in the defendant's employment, alleged that the latter gave him at the time £1, and also told him that an account which he had in his books against him would be wiped out. In May of the present year a dispute took place, and it was alleged that the defendant called plaintiff a rogue, and said his wife was a perjured rogue, further alleging that they had been "roguing" him for the past three years. Mr. Mullan denied that he used the words imputed to him, and explained that the £1 given by him to the Gardiners was intended to compensate them for the inconvenience and trouble caused in connection with the birth and death of the child, and was given at the suggestion of the Rev. Dr. Irwin. He did not agree that the account should be wiped out. His Honour said the case was perfectly plain. Plaintiff's wife might have desired the account to be wiped out, but defendant had no such intention. There had been no slander on the part of Mr. Mullan, and the case would be dismissed, with costs.

A GOOD WINDOW-SHOW has been made by a Massachusetts druggist. He arranged a water-still in the window, and kept it in constant operation surrounded by large glass jars filled with sparkling distillate. The exhibition was looked at by all the passers-by, and enough money was realised from the sale of the distilled water to more than pay the cost of the show.

INSECTICIDES—I. S. and J. T. McDougall have secured a patent (No. 9,535, 1895) for powder insecticides to be dusted over plants—viz., (a) Extract of tobacco, 10 lbs.; precipitated sulphate of lime, 90 lbs. (b) Extract of tobacco, 5 lbs.; extract of hellebore, 3 lbs.; lac sulphur, 10 lbs.; dry soap, 2 lbs.; kieselguhr, 80 lbs. (c) Arseniate of potash or soda (solution), 2 lbs.; extract of quassia, 8 lbs.; vegetable fibre (finely powdered), 90 lbs.



Scotch News

The Editor is obliged to correspondents who send local newspapers containing items of interest to the trade. He will be further obliged if such paragraphs be marked in all cases.

Business Change.

Mr. David Mackay has sold his pharmacies in Commercial Street and Scouringburn, Dundee, anticipatory to his removal to Glasgow. The Scouringburn place is one of the oldest pharmacies in Dundee, and was carried on for many years by Mr. G. B. Mackay, who retired in favour of his nephew.

A Pharmacists' Swimming-race.

The Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club decided the second of their series of swimming-races on Friday last. The distance was 100 yards, and a keen struggle ensued. Two yards covered the placed men, who finished in the following order:—1st, J. Greig (26 secs.); 2nd, G. H. C. Rowland (3 secs.); 3rd, A. G. Paterson (scratch). The next competition comes off on August 4.

Recovering a Debt in Scotland.

An appeal case came before the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on July 2, in which Mr. Cook, a clothier, of Aberdeen, sued Wm. Sinclair & Co., wholesale druggists, of that city, for delivery to him of two bills for 100*l.* each granted by Alexander Hadden, chemist, Ballater, to Mr. Marshall Thomson, chemist, of Ballater, and indorsed and delivered by him to the defenders. Mr. Cook was a creditor of Thomson to the extent of 12*l.*, and he also represented *qua* trustee creditors to the extent of 600*l.*, and he averred that the bills were indorsed and delivered to the defenders within sixty days of Thomson's bankruptcy in satisfaction of a pre-existing debt. The defenders replied that the bills were indorsed to them for value, and they pleaded that the action was incompetent. In the First Court the Sheriff-Substitute held that as trustee the pursuer had no title to sue, no power being given to him in the trust deed. He thought the combination of the two characters vitiated the action, and dismissed the action, with expenses, reserving the right to the pursuer to bring an action as a creditor. The Sheriff, on appeal, however, held that the action was not vitiated, and gave decree for 11*l.* 4*s.*, being the amount of the debt due to the pursuer as a creditor, with expenses. The defenders now appealed to the Court of Session who reverted to the Sheriff-Substitute's original judgment, and found for the defenders in both actions, with costs.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A FIRE broke out last Saturday morning on the premises of M. Detourbe, dealer in chemicals, 7 Rue St. Séverin, Paris. The firemen obtained mastery of the flames after three-quarters of an hour's work, but two assistant-chemists, MM. Hippolyte Varigot and Lérible, were badly burnt, and had to be conveyed to a hospital; their state is precarious.

ELECTRIC TREATMENT OF DIABETES.—At the last meeting of the Academy of Science, M. D'Arsonval gave an account of some remarkable experiments which had been made under his direction at the Hôtel Dieu in the clinic of Dr. Charrin. M. D'Arsonval had applied to two patients, a man and a woman, the high-frequency electric currents of Tesla. The effects in the case described were astonishing. At the commencement of the treatment the male patient's urine amounted to twelve litres per twenty-four hours, and contained 620 grammes of sugar. After six weeks the quantity had fallen to six litres, with 182 grammes of sugar. Equally

good results were obtained in the case of the female patient. M. D'Arsonval gave a demonstration at the Academy of the application of these currents, passing them through his own body, and lighting an incandescent lamp after the currents had passed through him. The patient is entirely unconscious of the passage of these currents.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY.—The second International Congress of Applied Chemistry will be inaugurated in Paris on July 27, under the presidency of M. Berthelot, at the Sorbonne. The meetings will be held in the halls of the Société d'Encouragement and the Sociétés Savantes until August 5. A reunion, presided over by M. Henri Boucher, Minister of Commerce, will terminate the Congress. The Congress is to be split into sections, and will hold an aggregate of sixty meetings. About 1,400 chemists and scientists are expected to be present, and about one-third of these will be foreigners. All branches of applied chemistry will come within the scope of the Congress, including chemical and pharmaceutical products, sugar, wine, beer, photography, electro-chemistry, &c. Alkaloids and toxines, also the analysis of new products employed in medicine, will form the subjects of papers by MM. Patein, Ogier, Martin, Trillat, &c., and MM. Houdas, Domergue, Mercier, &c., will introduce the subject of pharmaceutical chemistry. Visitors to the Congress will be invited to a number of excursions, including visits to the State factories, the Pasteur Institute, &c.

OYSTERS AND TYPHOID FEVER.—There has been a good deal of discussion recently at the Paris Academy of Sciences relative to the connection of oysters with typhoid fever. At the last meeting, M. Cornil read an abstract of a paper by M. Chantemesse, in which the latter reported several characteristic cases of poisoning that had come under his notice caused by oysters taken from beds contaminated by infiltrations of sewage-water. M. Cornil expresses the opinion that if the oysters are left for a few days in a bed covered by pure water and reached by the sea, they will throw off any noxious elements they may contain. The following formal conclusion was adopted by the Academy:—“As gastro-intestinal accidents, and even typhoid fever, may be occasioned by eating oysters which have remained in beds that for one reason or another are polluted, this Academy suggests that the competent authorities should exercise a control over oyster-beds, as well as the oysters imported from abroad. Further, it is necessary to insist that oysters obtained from localities known to be contaminated should be placed for eight days at least before sale in a place reached by sea-water and free from all pollution.”

THE LABORATORY ATTENDANTS of the Paris Faculty of Medicine petitioned their chiefs last week for an increase of wages. These assistants, who are without any special training, are all paid the uniform sum of 100*f.* (4*l.*) per month. They now ask for 1,600*f.* (64*l.*) per annum to commence, 1,800*f.* (72*l.*) at the end of three years' service, and 2,000*f.* (80*l.*) after six years' service. They say that their work is attended with a certain amount of danger, and that seven, or about 10 per cent., of their number died last year. Several of the professors have expressed their approval of the petition, and it has been forwarded by Dr. Brouardel to the Minister of Public Instruction. It appears that this petition has been brought about by an incident which occurred at the Faculty a few weeks ago. One of the attendants had devoted some of his spare time to working for a firm of manufacturers of pharmaceutical preparations who prepared a serum invented by Dr. Roger for the cure of maladies due to streptococci. A complaint on the subject was made to the Faculty of Medicine, and as a result the other attendants, who were mostly in the habit of increasing their earnings by outside work for chemical or other manufacturers, find themselves prohibited from doing so in future. As a matter of fact, it would seem that it had become a custom for the men to use the laboratory of the Faculty, and also the chemicals, &c., they found at hand, for their private work, which will no longer be tolerated.

ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS.—Being in the Quartier Latin a few evenings ago, a representative of the C. & D. called at the Café Procope, in the Rue de l'Ancienne Comédie, near the Boulevard St. Germain, which is one of the resorts of pharmaceutical students. The walls

of the café are ornamented with portraits of Gambetta, Mirabeau, and other notabilities who are said to have frequented the place in days gone by. On this occasion pharmacy was represented by the President and Secretary of the Association, MM. P. H. Berger and Ferrier, two intelligent, well-informed young fellows of about 25 years of age. They hail from the provinces, and have all that enthusiasm and hopefulness in their undertaking which inexperience can beget. After some conversation about the status of the English pharmacist, the regulations regarding the sale of patent medicines, and such-like subjects, M. Berger went on to talk about the new Association. The initial meeting (referred to in *C. & D.* of June 13), he explained, was held in the amphitheatre of the School of Pharmacy recently, and the idea received the support of the students. The professors are favourably disposed, and M. Planchon is interesting himself personally in the matter. The theory of the promoters of the Society is that there are about 8,000 pharmacists in France, and probably about as many students. They aim at obtaining a membership of about half the former and two-thirds of the latter, thus forming an association numerically very strong. The young President also explained what they mean to do and how they intend doing it. The only fault that could be found with his programme is the fact that the existence of a General Association of Pharmacists of France, also Societies of Pharmacy in Paris and many other towns, that count the leading lights of French pharmacy amongst their members, is practically ignored, although these bodies have been working hard for years past on behalf of the coming generations of pharmacists. "But," insisted M. Berger, "the essential difference between the new organisation and those already existing is that ours will not touch the commercial side of the question at all. The object is not to obtain increased profits for pharmacy, but to raise its dignity as a profession and to give the public a thoroughly scientific, devoted, skilful, and capable body of men." The speaker has not yet felt the pinch of working fourteen hours a day, for he added, "while one may thoroughly sympathise with the desirability of reducing working-hours, advocated by the Assistants' Syndicate, one feels that this is merely a feature of the capital-and-labour struggle, which has nothing exclusively professional or scientific about it. A modest feature of the Association's programme will be to limit the number of pharmacists, not by the German system, but by competitive examination—that is, by admitting only a restricted number of students to the Schools of Pharmacy, as is at present the case in the leading Government colleges. The question of the abolition of specialities will also probably be taken up, and special care will be taken to keep the Deputies well coached on the subject of pharmacy, in order to impress them with the fact that the aims and interests of the profession are identical with those of the public at large."

Foreign and Colonial News.

A BETEL PLAGUE.—Dr. George Watt has been at Backerunge and Noakholly studying the plague among the betel-nut trees there.

THE WILL OF the late Mr. John R. Duerdin, of Duerdin & Sainsbury, wholesale druggists, Melbourne, was proved in May last. The amount on which probate duty was paid was £28,250.

NAVAL APOTHECARIES in the U.S. service go with the rank and file, and they feel the indignity. A genuine attempt is now being made to get a Bill through the House of Representatives to make them warrant officers.

A HANDSOME AUSTRALIAN PHARMACY.—One of the largest drug-firms in Western Australia is the West Australian Apothecaries Company, of Fremantle, who have recently opened, at Perth, a shop which is described as one of the finest pharmacies in Australasia.

PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH has always been encouraged in the United States, and now an attempt is being made to get at higher subjects than those dealt with in graduation theses. An American Committee of Pharmaceutical Research has been formed, with headquarters at Ann Arbor, Mich.

WHAT WE MAY COME TO.—Bullock & Crenshaw, a well-known Philadelphia firm, have discontinued the jobbing drug-department of their business. They say that there is very little profit in the handling of patent medicines and proprietary goods, and for this reason it has been decided to drop the sale of same.

AMERICAN VANILLIN LITIGATION.—Messrs. Dodge & Olcott, of New York, American agents for De Laire & Co., manufacturers of vanillin, &c., announce that their principals have commenced proceedings against the Elizabeth Chemical Company, of New York, for infringement of the patents under which vanillin is manufactured. It is stated that the vanillin of the Elizabeth Chemical Company is marketed by the Franco-American Trading Company, of New York.

A NEW COD-LIVER OIL CENTRE.—The increasing prominence of Aalesund as a centre of the cod-fishing industry has become very marked during the past few years, writes a correspondent. In the season just closed, Aalesund firms have purchased the bulk of the medicinal oil manufactured in the Lofoten islands. Whereas a few years ago medicinal oil was seldom seen at Aalesund, excepting in small parcels, the quays of that port have this year been frequently blocked with oil-barrels. The town of Aalesund, which has a population of about 9,000, is situated on a small island of the same name, on the Norwegian West Coast, south-west of Christiansund.

PORT WINE FOR COOLIES.—It appears that a certain concoction is sold in the bazaars of the Malay Peninsula under the name of port wine, which is very largely consumed by coolies, to whom it is sold "at nominal prices." The stuff, under the present regulations, is imported duty free, and its effect upon the coolies, who have taken to it very kindly, is such that the Planters' Association of the Malay Peninsula, at their last meeting at Selangor, decided to make inquiries as to the constituents of the wine, with the object of asking the Government to impose a prohibitive duty upon it, the mixture, in the opinion of the association, having a most injurious effect upon the health of coolies, and others who consume it.

ALLEGED BRITISH RAID IN AMERICAN WATERS.—We congratulate our New York contemporary, the *Oil, Paint, and Drug Reporter*, upon the recent acquisition of a "funny man" on its staff. Our contemporary, which used to be remarkable for anything but sprightliness, has recently risen to freer flights of fancy. The following is a "horrible tale" which it has just sprung upon a peaceful world:—"Advices from Baltimore state that the steam-yacht *Nydia*, owned by Commander I. E. Emerson, president of the Emerson Drug Company, has been seized at night-time by a party of British landsmen, and when last seen was making for the open sea. Commander Emerson, is reported to have been aboard at the time, and it is presumed that he is confined near the ice-box by the piratical crew. The names of the parties who participated in the seizure, so far as could be learned, were James Hartford, of Schoellkopf, Hartford & MacLagan; Henry T. Jarrett, of the Mallinckrodt, Chemical-works; William Townley Case, of Boehringer & Son; and W. W. White, of Roessler & Hasslacher. All these are men of British birth. It is said that they are all respectably connected, and their overt act of unblushing piracy has cast a gloom over the entire business community. Eminent authorities on international law state that the act is in contravention of the treaty of 1813, and in defiance of the Monroe doctrine, besides conflicting with several of Hoyle's rules. It can only find possible justification in the theory that some of the party had previously been the guests of Commander Emerson, and were familiar with the hospitable resources of his craft. In that case, the legal luminaries opine, no American Court would convict any man for going aboard again by any method that was open to him."

TRACES OF ALCOHOL can, according to Merck, be detected in liquids by means of molybdic acid. The solution is made by dissolving the acid in concentrated sulphuric acid, and warming to 60° C. When a little of this solution is poured into a test-tube and some of the supposed alcoholic solution carefully poured upon it, there is a faint blue ring formed, which is darker as there is more alcohol present.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on July 1 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. The meeting was summoned for 3 P.M., but a quorum was not obtained till nearly 4 P.M. The following members attended:—Mr. W. H. Wells, jun. (President), in the chair, and Messrs. Beggs (Treasurer), Coryngham, Whitla, Monaghan, Kelly, Hayes, and Charles Evans.

IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS IN CALIFORNIA.

A letter from Mr. George H. Dawson, Secretary of the California State Board of Pharmacy, informed the Council that all applicants possessing credentials as pharmaceutical chemists of Ireland would be registered in California without examination.

The PRESIDENT: This is very satisfactory. Other foreign States have already recognised our licence.

Mr. HAYES moved a resolution according the best thanks of the Council to the California State Board of Pharmacy for the favour of accepting the diploma of the Society without examination, and expressing regret that the Society's Act of Parliament did not give them the power to reciprocate.

Mr. WHITLA seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REDUCTION OF FINES IN PHARMACY ACT CASES.

A letter from Dublin Castle intimated that the Lords Justices had fully considered the memorial of David Wilson, of Rathfrelan, upon whom two penalties of 5*l.* each had been imposed by magistrates, and affirmed on appeal, for breaches of pharmacy law, asking for an abatement of the penalties, and intimating that their Lordships had decided that the law must take its course as to the first fine, but that the second was reduced to 4*l.*

Mr. BEGGS: I suppose we can do nothing further?

The PRESIDENT: No; but I am sorry, after the strong letter we wrote, that the Lords Justices have not seen their way to uphold the law. We have been very badly treated in the case all through; and though the amount taken off the second fine is very small, it is a precedent. Defendants will say, "We have nothing to do but appeal to the Castle authorities, and they will sympathise with us and take off the penalties." It is very little encouragement to us to carry out the law, and I believe it is the opinion of some members of the Council that we should give up the prosecutions altogether.

Mr. EVANS: Don't say that we won't go on with the prosecutions.

The PRESIDENT: I am not saying by any means that we will take that course.

A BELATED FINE.

The Clerk of Claremorris Petty Sessions forwarded 3*l. 6s. 8d.*, being two-thirds of a fine which had been imposed on John J. Noone for unlawfully selling Cooper's sheep-dip.

The PRESIDENT: In this case the Lords Justices decided last November that the law should take its course, and yet we are only getting our proportion of the fine now, as the Magistrates would not sign the warrant.

GUARDIANS CONTRACT FOR MEDICINES WITH A GROCER.

The Local Government Board acknowledged the receipt of a letter from the Council remonstrating against the way in which the medicine-contract for Granard Union had been given.

The PRESIDENT: They gave the contract for medicines to a woman who is, I believe, a grocer and has no qualification to sell poisons.

RELATIONS WITH THE NEW ZEALAND BOARD OF PHARMACY.

Mr. James A. Haslett, a member of the New Zealand Pharmacy Board and also a licentiate of the Society, wrote requesting the Council to extend to his Board the courtesy of posting to their Registrar at Auckland the Society's examination-papers after each examination; also a copy of their calendar, and full information as to their syllabus and the text-books they recommended.

On the motion of Mr. HAYES, seconded by Mr. WHITLA, the request was ordered to be complied with, and it was also directed that Mr. Haslett should be asked to send the examination-papers of his Board to the Council.

CANNOT GRANT A SPECIAL EXAMINATION.

One of the candidates at the last examination who had failed by two marks applied to be granted a special examination, assigning as a reason that he could not wait for the next ordinary examination because he was suffering from chest-disease and had been ordered by his medical adviser to be out of the country before next September.

The PRESIDENT said he regretted that it was impossible to comply with the request. The Act of Parliament was very stringent on the point. It enacted that rejected candidates should not present themselves for re-examination until the expiration of six months after their rejection.

DONATIONS

were received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria of a copy of their report for 1895, and from the American Pharmaceutical Association of a copy of their *National Formulary of Unofficial Preparations* for 1896, and a copy of their *Proceedings* for 1895. Thanks were voted to the donors.

NEW MEMBERS.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT Mr. Thomas O'Sullivan, Waterford, and Mr. Alfred W. Mann, Belfast, were nominated for membership, and Mr. Daniel Taggart, of Bushmills, was nominated for associate druggistship.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE OF NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was held on Friday, July 3, Mr. J. L. Ewing presiding. Apologies for absence were intimated from Messrs. Storrar (Kirkcaldy) and Peterson and Johnston (Aberdeen).

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.

On the motion of Mr. W. L. CURRIE (Glasgow), seconded by Mr. KERR (Dundee), Mr. J. L. Ewing was re-elected Chairman for the ensuing twelve months; and on the motion of Mr. C. F. HENRY, seconded by Mr. KERMATH, of St. Andrews, Mr. Currie was re-elected for a second time as Vice-Chairman.

NEW MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE.

The CHAIRMAN then welcomed Mr. Donald Mitchell (Inverness) and Mr. David McLaren (Edinburgh) as the two new members of the Executive, and said he believed they would prove able and industrious colleagues. At the same time they also regretted the loss of their old friends Mr. Nesbit and Mr. Gibson, who had long been members of the Board, and had been very useful in helping them in regard to examination matters.

Mr. MITCHELL said it had given great satisfaction to members of the Society in the North that they should have been able to send one of their number to the Executive, and he felt it a great honour to have a seat at that table.

Mr. MCLAREN said he had great pleasure in being there if he could be of any service. The position was unsought by him. It was said that "all things come to them who wait." (Laughter.) He took no steps on his own part to get on to the Executive. He had been nominated by his friends.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. CARTEIGHE.

The CHAIRMAN in a very cordial speech proposed that the Executive should put on record their appreciation of Mr. Carteighe's services to the North British Branch.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN, in seconding the motion, said he did not think any former President had done so much as Mr. Carteighe for the benefit of their calling.

The motion was carried, and it was remitted to the Chair-

man, Vice-Chairman and Secretary to draw up a minute which was as follows.—

That this Executive desires to place on record an expression of its indebtedness to Mr. Michael Carteige for his services as President, and of its high appreciation of the unselfish and earnest efforts he has successfully made to advance the interests of the Society and promote loyalty to one another and a cordial feeling of unity and sympathy among pharmacists both north and south of the Tweed.

COMMITTEES.

The General Purposes Committee and the Committee for Nomination of Examiners were appointed.

MATERIA MEDICA COLLECTIONS.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Dr. P. A. Young, Treasurer of the Royal College of Physicians, intimating that the College had given authority to the Council to hand over the Materia Medica Museum to the Society, but as it was necessary that the motion for handing over the museum should be considered at three special meetings held for the purpose, it would be at least the month of November next before it could be actually handed over.

It was agreed to remit the matter to the General Purposes Committee, with powers.

The Executive then went into committee to consider a report as to the proposed acquisition of the *materia medica* collection of the late Dr. T. A. G. Balfour, and also the rearrangement of the Society's house, and the whole question was remitted back to the committee. The question of arranging for the opening evening meeting of the Winter Session was also referred to the committee.

DELEGATES TO THE PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. Maben, Davidson, Lunan, Kerr, Bowman, Moir, McLaren, and Coull were appointed delegates to the Conference at Liverpool.

PORTRAIT OF THE LATE J. F. MACFARLAN.

The CHAIRMAN called attention to the portrait of the late J. F. Macfarlan which was hanging on the Board-room walls, and said they were indebted to the kindness of Mr. Macfarlan's daughters for it. He had taken the liberty of approaching these ladies about having a portrait of their father, who was the second President of the North British Branch and the first member of Council from Scotland, with what result they saw. He moved that the thanks of the Executive be voted to Mrs. Stewart, Miss Margaret Fletcher Macfarlan, and Miss Alexandrina Johnstone Macfarlan.

This was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. KERMATH a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Ewing for his conduct in the chair and for his past services as Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN replied by saying he hoped he would continue to deserve their support.

Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Lack, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," July 1, 1896.)

"VELVRIL"; for chemical substances used in manufactures. By E. J. V. Earle, 119 Cheapside, London, merchant, and W. F. Reid, Fieldsides, Addlestone, Surrey, civil engineer. 192,311.

"PERCOOS"; for a medical compound for veterinary purposes. By W. Cooper, 281 Belgrave Gate, Leicester, farrier. 195,357.

"GLABROLINE" and wording "Jenkins' Corn-cure," &c., on label; for a medicated preparation for the cure of corns. By John Jenkins, 156 Portland Road, South Norwood, London, S.E., chemist. 194,783. The essential particular is the word "Glabroline."

"NIWO"; for mineral and aerated waters, natural and artificial. By A. G. Hughes, Nairn House, Loftus Road, Uxbridge Road, London, spinster and proprietress of mineral springs. 195,230.

"ALAPURIN"; for perfumery, toilet articles, perfumed soap, &c. By Norddeutsche Wollkämmerei & Kammgarnspinnerei, Geeren, No. 46, Bremen, manufacturers. 195,441.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," July 8, 1896.)

"HUSKOLEIN," device of cows, horses, and sheep, and applicants' signature; for a veterinary preparation. By Day & Sons, Animal Medicine Works, Crewe, Cheshire. 191,383. The essential particulars are the combination of devices and the signature.

"ZOMELA"; for medicinal preparations for the skin. By the Zomela Company, 131 Villa Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, manufacturing chemists. 194,284.

"STOPPITT," and figure of hen running; for a medicine for human use. By the Finance Bank (Limited), 14 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 195,302. The essential particular is the device.

The "TRILBY," and figure of the same; for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, but not including pills and ointment. By A. de St. Dalmas & Co., 40 Belgrave Gate, Leicester, manufacturers. 195,449.

Facsimile of applicants' signature; for a preparation for producing a non-alcoholic beverage. By Cameron, Herriott & Co., 133 Brook Street, Glasgow, manufacturers of salines and baking-powders. 195,502.

"GONDOLA"; for candles and night-lights. By Price's Patent Candle Company (Limited), 31 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C. 195,795.

"SATIN" SOAP, and figure of comic nigger, with wording on label; for toilet soap. By Massam & Dibb, 25 High Street, Hull, soap manufacturers. 195,574. The essential particular is the device.

Signature of applicants and other wording on decorated label; for golden syrup. By Sharp & Galloway, Salford Sugar Refinery, Salford. 195,495. The essential particular is the signature.

"TAURINE," and other wording on circular device; for a meat-extract in the form of a jelly. By the Taurine Company, 6 Crosby Square, London, E.C. 194,994. The essential particular is the device.

"SIROP DE GROSEILLES," and combination of devices with monogram on floral label; for a fruit-syrup (non-alcoholic). By Bouillon Fleet (Limited), 108C Warner Road, Camberwell, London, S.E. 194,740. The essential particular is the combination of devices.

"MOSETIG BATTIST," and German crest device, with initials "VGF"; for medical and surgical bandages. By Hamburg and Vienna India-rubber Company, 9-14 Tower Chambers, Moorgate, London, E.C. 192,318. The essential particular is the device.

FROM BILE BEANS TO MORPHIA.—We regret to hear that Mr. James F. Smith, the discoverer and proprietor of "Smith's bile-beans," is no more. The man who could invent and name such a remedy—for "bile-beans," it appears, is a patent medicine—is one whose memory Texarkana (Texas), of which he was a prominent citizen, will not willingly let die. Mr. James Smith was the "Dr. Jim" of Texarkana, where he had lived since the days when that centre of culture was "platted out" in 1876. With his brother George he carried on a "live, hustling, frame drug-store," which had the additional distinction of being half situated in Texas and half in Arkansas, the brothers Smith paying taxes, and, presumably, supplying bile-beans, in both States. Not satisfied with having graven his name on the scroll of fame as the bile-bean originator, Mr. James Smith took to speculating in real estate, lost his bile-bean pile, and took an overdose of morphia in his hotel-room at St. Louis.

Legal Reports.

COUNTY COURT CASES.

"ACCORDING TO SAMPLE."

AT Shoreditch County Court, on Thursday, before his Honour Judge French, Q.C., Mr. Clevell, chemical merchant, of Liverpool, claimed 13*l.* 10*s.* from Messrs. Harrington & Co., chemical merchants, of London and Cork, for three barrels of manganese supplied. The defendants pleaded that the goods were not according to sample. Plaintiff some time ago bought a job-lot of manganese and sent a sample to the defendants. The sample sent was said to be 60 per cent. peroxide, 10 per cent. of protoxide, and the other 30 per cent. moisture, lime, &c., the sample being quite brown in colour. At that time (April, 1895) the defendants did not require any manganese and did not buy. In August they wrote, "If you have any of that manganese left, the same as you described in your letter, and according to sample, we are prepared to buy the whole lot." The stuff was sent, but instead of being brown in colour it was black. It was analysed by the defendants' analyst, a Mr. Schröder, and he found it to contain only 40 per cent. peroxide, the remainder being moisture and lime, and there was no protoxide whatever. Defendants therefore refused to pay.

Mr. Schröder was called and produced his analysis, but was unable to read the percentages to the Court. Mr. Harrington went into the box and gave the percentages as supplied to him by the analyst.

Judge French commented very strongly upon the analyst being unable to turn his analysis into intelligible English, and said he could not accept evidence second-hand, which was not legal evidence, and gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.

DOCK COMPANIES' CHARGES.

IN the City of London Court, on Monday, Mr. Commissioner Kerr decided a case of great importance to the trade, and involving some thousands of pounds a year in dock dues. The plaintiffs, Messrs. Clippingdale & Thornhill, 40 Seething Lane, E.C., sought to recover from the London and India Docks Joint Committee the sum of 4*l.*, which they had paid under protest.

Mr. Cranston was counsel for the plaintiffs, and Mr. George Wallace for the defendants.

Mr. Cranston said the question now raised was of immense importance to all traders who sent to the docks for their goods coming from abroad by steamer, as the dock companies were attempting to impose fresh charges, to which, according to the plaintiffs, they had no right. The plaintiffs were employed to fetch a cargo of goods from the docks, and to do that they sent two barges into the defendants' docks. When the goods had been put on board the lighters, the defendants would not allow them to leave until the plaintiffs had paid rent and dock dues for ten days, on the ground that the vessels had been in the docks a much longer time than they had a right to be under the Dock Committee's Act of Parliament. The plaintiffs contended that the defendants could not charge for the lighters while they were waiting, provided they were *bonâ-fide* waiting for cargo. The delay which took place was not the plaintiffs' fault, but was owing to the fact that five steamers arrived at once, and the goods from all of them were landed at one time. The effect was that the goods from the steamer which arrived first were obtainable last.

Mr. Commissioner Kerr: So that the Scriptural promise was fulfilled and the first was last while the last were got at first.

Mr. Wallace said the defendants had paid into court the sum of 1*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, and they maintained that they were entitled to charge for the plaintiff's vessels being in the docks waiting for cargo. Their power to make that charge was vested in them under the 136th section of their Act. They had charged for the time while the vessels were not actually loading. In reality, they were entitled to charge more than they had done.

Mr. Cranston said he was ready to receive his cargo all the time the defendants kept him waiting. The defendants

ought not to have kept him waiting, and they ought certainly not to charge him for it.

After a long legal argument, Mr. Commissioner Kerr said he must hold that the defendants were right in making the charges, and he must, therefore, find for the defendants. He would allow costs on the higher scale, as the case was of such great importance to the commercial world, and he would give leave to appeal.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

THE ANALYST'S CERTIFICATE.

AT Loughborough Petty Sessions, on July 1, John Ratcliffe, grocer, was summoned for selling adulterated mustard. A tin of Colman's mustard was purchased for 9*d.*, and the public analyst, Dr. Bernard Dyer, certified that it contained 6 per cent. of wheaten flour. For the defence Mr. Louis Tillett, of Norwich, contended that Dr. Dyer's certificate was informal, as it did not state what the other 94 per cent. consisted of. The Chairman of the magistrates said the assumption would be that it was mustard. Mr. Tillett said they could not proceed on assumptions in criminal cases. The Bench concurred, and the summons was dismissed.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re WILLIAM HENRY HERN, 1 Spring Street, Hyde Park, Chemist.

THE public examination of this bankrupt was held at the London Bankruptcy Court, on Thursday, before Mr. Registrar Hope. The debtor failed in May, with gross liabilities 857*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*; unsecured, 633*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*; and assets, 32*s.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, less preferential claims of 23*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*

In reply to Mr. H. Brougham, Official Receiver, the bankrupt stated that he commenced the above business in 1882, with a capital of 600*l.* One-half of that amount was borrowed for the purposes of the business; it had not been repaid; no pressure was exercised for its recovery, but interest having been paid regularly, the debt had been kept alive. The failure was due to excess of expenses over the net profits, losses by betting, and the sacrifice of the stock and effects under a distress levied by the landlord. Until that sale was effected he had regarded himself as perfectly solvent, and had been of opinion that by selling the business as a going concern he could meet all his engagements. He admitted that he had been in financial difficulties for a year past, and that creditors had pressed for payment during the whole of the present year. The statement of affairs showed a deficiency of 625*l.* He estimated that a loss of 200*l.* was sustained by the forced sale of the stock and effects, and that 400*l.* was not an exaggerated value of the goodwill, as there was a good dispensing trade, and the lease had seven years to run. The lease was held by the cash creditor, as security for the 300*l.* loan. A sum of 100*l.* had been charged for interest, and his betting losses last year amounted to 150*l.* He had indulged in betting for some years, and although no great loss was sustained before last year, the transactions were against him as a whole. The turnover of the business had averaged 600*l.* a year, and produced a net profit of 180*l.*, whilst his drawings for household and personal expenses were from 4*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* a week. The accounts showed a deficiency of 100*l.* a year ago, but that was merely an estimate, and probably the amount was really larger. A private meeting of his creditors was held just before the failure, when a composition of 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound was offered, but no additional security could be given and the offer fell through, with the result that witness filed his petition. This was his first failure.

Mr. M. S. Rubinstein, who attended on behalf of the bankrupt, did not re-examine, and the inquiry was concluded.

Re J. T. HASSELBY, Baxter Gate, Doncaster, Chemist and Druggist.

THE creditors of this debtor met at the Glyn Hotel, Doncaster, on July 3. Two-thirds of the creditors were

present or represented. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Stringer. A report, drawn up by Messrs. Townend & Glover, of 6 Privy Place, Doncaster, was placed before the meeting. It showed that the unsecured debts amounted to £649*l*, while the assets, regarding the business as a going concern, were estimated at £545*l*. net. Mr. Hasselby was prepared to offer 12*s. 6d.* in the pound—namely, 10*s.* in three months and 2*s. 6d.* (secured) a month afterwards. Mr. Hasselby, the report stated, “very much regrets his position, which is entirely due to misfortune and circumstances outside his control. Owing to the pulling down and alteration of his premises, he has had two removals within the last two years, and on the last occasion the premises he left were let by the Corporation, his landlord, to Messrs. Boots (Limited), who carry on the same style of business. Mr. Hasselby is advancing in years and suffers from increasing deafness, and is wishful to get his affairs cleared up without delay.”

It was resolved to accept a dividend of 12*s. 6d.* in the pound, as follows:—6*s. 3d.* in two months and 6*s. 3d.* in four months. The estate was assigned to Mr. G. W. Townend, of Doncaster and Goole, as trustee.

Deed of Arrangement.

Hasselby, Thomas John, 6 Baxter Gate and 41 Carr House Road, Doncaster, chemist and druggist. Trustee, George W. Townend, Goole, accountant. Dated, June 27; filed, July 3. Secured creditors, 100*l.* Liabilities unsecured, £91*l. 13s. 9d.*; estimated net assets, £547. 5*s. 7d.* Composition of 12*s. 6d.* in the pound, payable by two equal instalments on August 27 and October next. Last instalment guaranteed by the trustee with assignment to him of debtor's estate upon trust, &c. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£ s. d.
Anglo-American Oil Co., Manchester	.. .. .. 10 0 0
Barron, Harveys & Co., London	.. .. .. 27 0 0
Blundell, Spence & Co., Hull	.. .. .. 37 0 0
Browning & Co., London	.. .. .. 62 0 0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds	.. .. .. 11 0 0
Littlewood, F., Doncaster	.. .. .. 25 0 0
Sissons Brothers, Hull	.. .. .. 38 0 0
Storry, Smithson & Co., Hull	.. .. .. 12 0 0
Stringer, J., Doncaster	.. .. .. 95 0 0
Sutton, W., & Co., London	.. .. .. 75 0 0
Thompson & Co., Leith	.. .. .. 26 0 0
Walker, Parker & Co., Newcastle	.. .. .. 34 0 0
Bankers' claims	.. .. .. 25 0
Preferential creditors	.. .. .. 41 0 0

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Blagden, W. G., and Blagden, V., Finchurch Avenue, E.C., under the style of W.G. Blagden, chemical-brokers.

Clarke, S. F., and Pearson, W. P., Burton-on-Trent, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Swadlincote, under the style of Clarke & Pearson, dentists.

Elliot, J., and Dancy, H. M., Belvedere, Kent, under the style of Elliot & Dancy, surgeons.

Frampton, T. H. T., and Sharpe, W. S., Gloucester Terrace, Hyde Park, W., under the style of Frampton & Sharpe, general medical practitioners.

Perrins, H. R., and Franklin, E., Worcester, under the style of Perrins & Franklin, veterinary surgeons.

Place, A., and Thistlewaite, S., Manchester, under the style of Place & Thistlewaite, wholesale surgical-instrument makers and dealers in surgeons' sundries.

Roots, W. H., and Taylor, A. S., Kingston-on-Thames and Surbiton under the style of Kershaw, Roots & Taylor, and Roots & Taylor, surgeons, apothecaries, and accoucheurs.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890

RECEIVING ORDER.

Hill, William Henry (trading as H. Tuck), Cardiff, temperance-drink and cordial manufacturer.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Pearse, George Edgar Hope, late Chipstead, Surrey, late manager to the Exporters' Agency (Limited), Fenchurch Street, E.C., and carrying on business as a manager to C. Fox & Co. (Limited), Eastcheap, E.C., present address unknown.

Williams, Herbert Edward, Swansea, chemist and druggist.

ORDERS MADE ON APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

Johnson, Samuel, Wrinehill, near Crewe, and Madeley, Staffordshire, draper and proprietor of patent medicines—discharge granted.

Noad, Henry Carden, Norwood Road, West Norwood, S.W., surgeon—discharge suspended for two years ending May 12, 1898.

Whitmarsh, John Lloyd, Thurle Road, South Kensington, S.W., late Fulham Road and Marlborough Road, S.W., doctor of medicine—discharge granted.

New Companies and Company News.

DIGBY PATENTS COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire certain patents, patent rights, inventions and secret processes of Edward J. T. Digby, to enter into an agreement for the purpose, and to manufacture, sell and deal in soft-soap, dry soap, hard soap, saponaceous compounds, detergents, dentifrices, polishing-powders, &c. The first directors are:—Samuel Sanders, Frank M. Sanders, John P. Andrews, and Wm. W. Seymour.

PASTEUR ANTHRAX-VACCINE LABORATORY OF AUSTRALIA (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with the Société du Vaccin Châbonneux Pasteur, and to carry on the business of a manufacturer and vendor of anthrax vaccine-lymph and of an anthrax-vaccinator. The first directors (to number not fewer than two nor more than seven) are to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, 500*l.* per annum divided between them.

WEST INDIAN OIL SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and develop land and other property in the West Indies and elsewhere, to enter into a certain agreement, and to carry on the business of importers, exporters, producers and dealers of and in coal-tar, pitch, asphaltum, petroleum, and other mineral oils, &c. The first directors are: F. C. Stoop, J. A. Aiton, and D. Cornfoot. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, 10 per cent. of the net profits divided between them.

SALAR DEL CARMEN NITRATE SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 110,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire certain nitrate grounds named “Salar del Carmen,” situate in the province of Tarapaca in the Republic of Chile, South America, and to carry on the business of manufacturers and exporters of and dealers in nitrates, iodine, and other products, carriers, shipowners, lightermen, warehousemen, and wharfingers. The first directors are:—Wm. T. Morrison, Alfred Naylor, Joseph Macandrew, and Archibald Williamson. Qualification, 500*l.* Remuneration, 1,500*l.* per annum divided between them.

SHUKER & STEPHENS (LIMITED)—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and take over the business of a chemist and grocer, carried on by Charles B. Shuker, at Ridgway, Plympton, Devon, to enter into an agreement with the said vendor, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, oil and colourmen, patent-medicine vendors, dealers in proprietary articles, grocers, provision merchants, &c. The first directors (to number not fewer than two nor more than five) are: Charles B. Shuker (chemist) and Henry Stephens (grocer), both of the registered office. Qualification, 200 shares. Remuneration, as the company may decide. Registered office, Ridgway, Plympton St. Mary, Devon.

PERRY'S POWDERS (LIMITED).—The first annual general meeting of Perry's Powders (Limited) was held at the registered office of the Company, 59 Wade Lane, Leeds, on July 7. The report and balance sheet were adopted, and a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, on the paid-up capital was declared.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. T. & H. SMITH & CO., of Edinburgh and London, inform us that from July 13 their telegraphic address will be "Meconic" for both houses. Hitherto they have used "Meconic" for London and "Smith Company" for Edinburgh.

REUTER'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY (LIMITED) send us the first number of a penny "Murray's Monthly Shippers' Diary and Official Dock Time Table," which they are bringing out. The Diary gives particulars of all the mails and dates of sailing throughout the month from all British ports. It also gives maps of the docks and time tables of the dock railways.

RENNET POWDER — Messrs. Loimer & Co., Britannia Row, Islington, N., have just introduced in good style a new rennet-powder to retail at 6d., for which a brisk demand should easily be created during the hot weather. It is a nice article, keeps indefinitely, and has all the virtues of the "essence" without its disadvantages. They are making a special offer of it this week.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DARK ROOMS — The following should be added to the list given in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY :

Amersham.—Mr. T. H. King.

Brixton.—Mr. F. H. Blomfield, 49 Pier Road.

Headingly.—Mr. H. T. Metcalfe.

Morecambe.—Mr. J. J. Fell.

Newry.—Messrs. S. Connor & Sons.

Redhill.—Mr. W. H. Fowler, 2 Station Road.

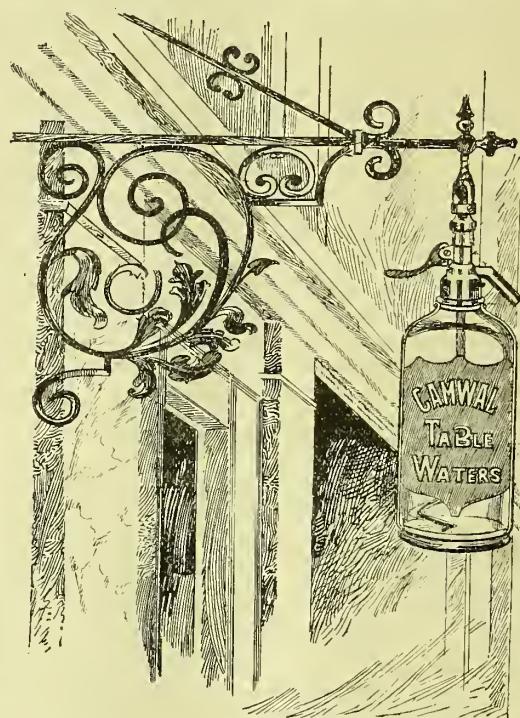
Wallingford.—Messrs. Upton & Reynolds.

MESSRS. F. DARTON & CO., manufacturing opticians, of 142 St. John Street, Clerkenwell, are the first to inform us of the receipt of their medal and diploma from the World's Columbian Commission for their exhibit at the Chicago Exposition in 1893. The terms of the award in their case are as follows:—"For the sensitiveness of certain barometers, the microscope attachment to the face of aneroids, the delicacy of clinical thermometers, and important improvements in ordinary thermometers; for good construction of microscopes and the number of devices to secure ease of manipulation, the superior lenses of marine glasses, good centreing devices, and excellent definition."

NEW MEDICINAL HERB PRODUCTS — Messrs. Geo. Allen & Co., of Ampthill, Beds, have submitted to us samples of this year's pressing of vegetable juices and green extracts, which suffice to show that the quality of these important medicinal agents is well maintained this year. We are particularly struck with the aroma and flavour of the succi scorparii, conii, hyoscyami and digitalis, and it is noticeable that these are all pale juices (*conium* exceptionally so), thus indicating, we presume, that excessive pressure has not been applied, and that they have not been heated. The green extracts—*conii*, *bellad.*, *hyos. bienn.*, and *digitalis*—are also excellent, so far as can be judged by appearance, aroma, and taste, for time has not permitted us to assay the samples. A sample of *syr. rheodaeos* of this year's make is also of excellent colour and flavour. The elegance of the whole of these preparations is a sufficient justification of the stricture of the British Pharmacopœia that they must be prepared from plants grown in Britain, for we have never seen any "made in Germany" equal to them in quality. This is the proper time to arrange for the year's stock of such preparations as the foregoing, and large buyers should get samples from the firm or their London agents, Messrs. Stafford Allen & Sons, 7 Cowper Street, E.C., before placing their orders. We have also received samples of this year's dried leaves of *belladonna*, *digitalis*, *hemlock*, *henbane*, and *stramonium*, and flor. *rose Arg.*, all of which exhibit full care in harvesting and drying.

THE CAMWAL COMPANY have produced a lamp in the shape of a large syphon, fitted for a 16 candle power electric light, intended to advertise their waters. The lamp is constructed so as to serve as an outside swinging-lamp or for a window-display. Its extreme height is 2 feet 9 inches. The title of the waters is engraved on the lamp, and the metal parts of

the syphon are heavily gilded. We understand that in cases where chemists have shops in a prominent position, and can



obtain the electric light, the company are willing to fit up one of these lamps free. They inform us that the design is registered.

Business Changes.

Notices of changes in the retail trade, and opening of new businesses, are inserted in this section, free of charge, if properly authenticated.

MR. ROBERT FELL, chemist and druggist, King Street, Huddersfield, has transferred his business at that address to his son, Sydney Fell.

KNOWLES'S DRUG COMPANY are opening a new drug-store in Farringdon Street, E.C., between the vegetable market and the station.

MR. CHARLES A. NEALE, from Peterborough, has purchased from Mr. T. S. Davey the business lately carried on by the latter at 16 Townshend Road, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

OWING to the increase of their business in the United States, Evans and Sons (Limited), of Montreal and Toronto, have moved into more commodious and central premises at 137 Pearl Street, Boston, U.S.A.

By a clerical error the name of the wholesale drug-firm who have commenced business at 23 St. Mary Axe appeared in our last issue as Boyce & Co., and that of the gentleman who started it as James A. Boyce. The names should have been Bryce & Co. and Jas. A. Bryce.

MR. T. J. SMITH, importer of cod-liver oil, &c., North Church Side, Hull, has taken into partnership his nephew, Mr. H. Nelson Smith, and the firm will be continued as T. J. Smith & Nephew. Mr. W. Bousfield, who has for many years travelled for Mr. Smith, remains with the new firm with increased responsibility.

CROYDON is now exceptionally well supplied with drug stores. Boots opened an additional establishment in that town a few weeks ago, and now the shop 103 and 105 North End has been opened as Henry's Cash Drug-stores (with Mr. J. H. Lewis as proprietor). These premises are very

handsomely fitted. The dispensing-counter is arranged for four assistants. One corner of the shop is fitted as a dark-room.

M. FERDINAND ROQUES, of 36 Rue Ste. Croix de la Bretonnerie, Paris, states that, in consequence of the death of his father, M. Adolphe Roques, he has taken over the chemical-factory hitherto carried on at that address, and will henceforth carry it on, in conjunction with Mme. Adolphe Roques, Vve., under the style of Ferdinand Roques & Cie MM. Henri Charles and Adolphe Lerus, who have been connected with the firm for many years, will sign by procuration.

Marriages.

HALL—KITWOOD.—On July 3, at the Punshon Memorial Wesleyan Church, Bournemouth, by Rev. F. B. Cowle, of London, assisted by Rev. J. J. Brown, John T. Hall, homeopathic chemist, to Marion, younger daughter of Thomas Kitwood, of Hurst, Bournemouth.

MACFARLANE—FERNIE.—On June 25, at the Cockburn Hotel, Glasgow, by the Rev. John Anderson, B.D., Kelvinside Parish Church, Thomas Macfarlane, chemist, Biggar, to Annie Hutchison, youngest daughter of the late John Fernie, builder, Fernie Terrace, Maryhill.

ROBERTSON—ALLAN.—On June 30, at Kirkcaldy, by the Rev. George McHardy, M.A., Congregational Church, George S. B. Robertson, chemist and druggist, Dundee, to Alexandrina, youngest daughter of Alexander Allan, Pathhead.

WALTON—OLDHAM.—On July 8, at St. Peter's Church, Bromyard, Herefordshire, by the Rev. W. Martin, Joseph Woodruff Walton, chemist, Higher Broughton, Manchester, to Edith, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Oldham, of Douglas, Isle of Man.

Deaths.

GEE.—On June 28, Mr. George Gee, chemist and druggist, Sandbach. Aged 60.

JONES—Mr. J. T. Jones, chemist and druggist, Bute Street, Cardiff, died very suddenly on July 2. Just before closing time he superintended the putting up of some timber in his yard. Immediately afterwards he entered the shop, and called to his wife to send for Dr. Vachell. He then became speechless, and before the arrival of the doctor he had ceased to breathe. Deceased was 61 years of age, and of apparently robust build. Dr. Vachell attributed death to failure of the heart's action. Deceased was one of the oldest tradesmen in Cardiff, and had carried on business in Bute Street for forty years. He leaves no children.

ROBERTSON.—On June 23, Mr. W. T. Robertson, chemist and druggist, Glasgow. Aged 34.

WE hear from Melbourne of the deaths of several well-known Australasian chemists:—Mr. William Geddes, who died on May 6, was a native of Kilmarnock, Scotland, and went to Victoria in 1853. He was for many years a partner in the firm of Fell, Geddes & Walton, wholesale and retail druggists, of Melbourne, but subsequently went to Beechworth. He was 75 years of age. Mr. Charles A. Rundle, of Wangaratta, who died on April 30, at the age of 60, was of Irish birth, and served his apprenticeship with Mr. Trehearne, chemist, of Totnes. Mr. Edward T. Nokes, a retired Melbourne chemist, died on April 26. He went out from England in 1878. Mr. F. E. Grundy, a past president of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, died on April 25. He was an old colonist, but was of English birth. Lastly, we are informed of the death of Mr. William Elder, J.P., of Dunedin. Mr. Elder was a native of Scotland, and had an important business in Dunedin. He was a member of the New Zealand Pharmacy Board.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

COMPOUND SYRUP OF WHITE PINE.

White-pine bark	..	..	..	650 grammes
Wild cherry bark	..	..	..	650 grammes
Balm of Gilead buds	..	..	..	87 grammes
Spikenard-root	..	..	..	87 grammes
Sanguinaria-root	..	..	..	65 grammes
Sas-afras-bark	..	..	..	44 grammes
Morphine sulphate	..	..	..	04 grammes
Chloroform	..	..	..	40 c.c.
Glycerine	..	..	..	1500 c.c.
Sugar	..	..	..	700 grammes
Water, a sufficient quantity to make	..	..	..	1,000 c.c.

Mix the glycerine with 300 c.c. of water. Having mixed the white-pine bark and other vegetable drugs, reduce them to a No. 40 powder. Moisten the powder with a sufficient quantity of the menstruum, and allow it to macerate for twenty-four hours; then pack it firmly in a cylindrical glass perco'ator, and gradually pour off the remainder of the menstruum. When the liquid has disappeared from the surface follow it with water, continuing the percolation until 500 c.c. are obtained. Dissolve the morphine sulphate and chloroform, and then the sugar, in the percolate by agitation without heat, strain, and pass enough water through the strainer to make the product measure 1,000 c.c.

—Am. Jour. Pharm.

COMPOUND SYRUP OF WHITE PINE.

Tincture of white pine	..	..	..	3ij.
Fluid extract of ipecac.	..	..	..	3ss.
Carbonate of magnesia	..	..	..	3iv.
Chloroform	..	..	..	5j.
Sulphate of morphine	..	..	..	gr. viii.
Water	..	..	..	3vj.
Sugar	..	..	..	3xiv.

Rub 1 oz. of the sugar with the magnesia in a mortar, triturate the fluid extract of ipecac and tincture of white pine with it; then gradually add the water, constantly stirring; filter, and in the filtrate dissolve the morphia. Mix the chloroform with the sugar in a suitable bottle, pour in the filtrate, and dissolve by agitation. This is an excellent cough-remedy, and has a ready sale wherever introduced.

Tincture of white pine is made by dissolving 2 oz. of white gum turpentine in 14 oz. of rectified spirit by a gentle heat—*Meyer Brothers' Druggist.*

MOSQUITOLIN.

Oil of patchouli	..	..	..	..	mls.
Oil of cinnamon	..	..	..	..	mls.
Yellow sandalwood	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Rectified spirit	..	..	..	..	3vj.
Water	..	..	..	..	3iv.

Macerate for three days, and filter.

To be used for sponging on the neck and hands.

FRECKLE-LOTION.

Zinci oxid	..	..	..	..	3j.
Calamin	..	..	..	..	3j.
Hydarg. ammon. chlor.	..	..	..	..	gr. xv.
Glycerini	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Aq. rose ad	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.S.A.

ELDER FLOWER PERFUME.

Terpineol	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Oil of cananga	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Oil of rose geranium	..	..	..	..	mlxxv.
Essence of musk	..	..	..	..	mlxxv.
Tincture of storax	..	..	..	..	3v.
Rectified spirit	..	..	..	..	3xxxv.
Distilled water	..	..	..	..	3xvj.

Mix.

LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY PERFUME.

Oil of linaloë	..	..	..	..	5iiss.
Oil of cananga	..	..	..	..	5ij.
Oil of bergamot	..	..	..	..	5ss.
Oil of rose geranium	..	..	..	..	mlxxv.
Oil of melissa	..	..	..	..	mlvj.
Tincture of storax	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Rectified spirit	..	..	..	..	3xxxv.
Water	..	..	..	..	3xvj.

Mix.

—Seifenfabrik.

The Art of Pharmacists.

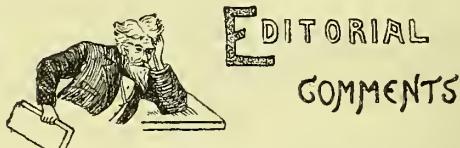


By Bamborough M. Miller,
Blaydon-on-Tyne.

HERE are some more of the ideas which our subscribers have limned in regard to editorial, legal and other matters which are regularly weekly features of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.



By Chas. B. Dickins, 221 West Derby Road, Liverpool.



By Chas. W. Dowswell, High Wycombe.



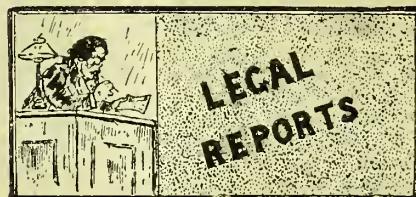
By Bamborough M. Miller,
Blaydon on-Tyne.



By Fred Reynolds, Ingate, Yorks.



By Bamborough M. Miller,
Blaydon-on-Tyne.



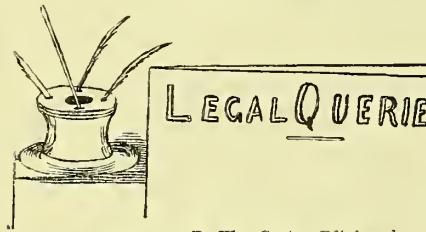
By A. M. Mitchell, 13 Tavistock Place, Regent's Park, N.W.



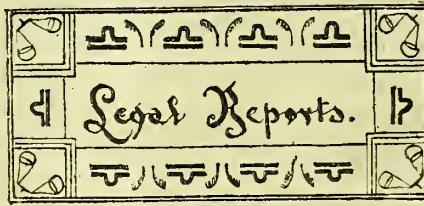
By C. W. Dowswell, High Wycombe.



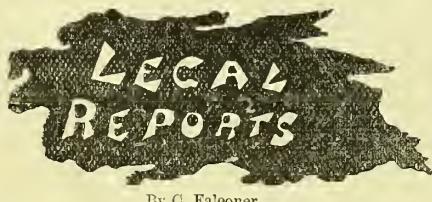
By C. B. Dickins, 221 West Derby Road, Liverpool.



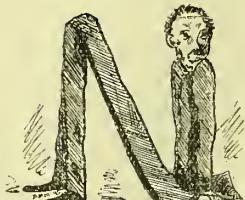
By Wm. Center, Edinburgh.



By Caliban.



By C. Falconer.



By Bamborough M. Miller,
Blaydon-on-Tyne.



By J. A. Center, 25 Ardmillan Terrace, Edinburgh.



By B. M. Miller.

The designers of headings which appeared on page 773 of the last volume with no artist's name attached were Mr. B. Dickins, West Derby Road, Liverpool (the anonymous Summary heading), and Mr. A. W. Nunn, 313 Sydenham Road (Corner for Students with apparatus).

Insects which Attack Drugs.

PROF. L. E. SAYRE has for several years been working on this subject, and, on the understanding that what obtains in Kansas applies to England, we reproduce his sketches as printed in the *Druggists' Circular*. The insects were found in the drugs as kept in a drug-store under normal conditions, and their names and where found are undernoted:—

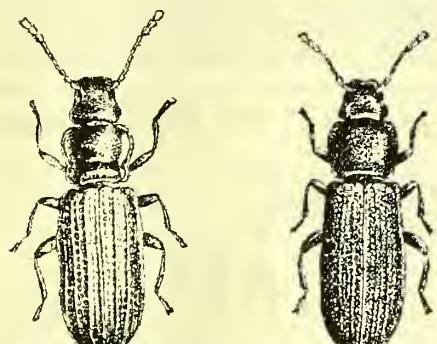
Lasioderma serricorne, in aurantii dulcis cortex; bryonia. *Sitodrepa panicea*, in aconitum, aspidium, coriander, semen foeniculi, ipecacuanha, triticum.

Bruchidae, one species (one specimen), in coriander.

Lathridius filiformis, in absinthium, asclepias, aspidium, belladonna folia, belladonna radix, bryonia, ergota, limonis cortex, ulmus, zingiber (unlimed).

A species of *Coleoptera*, "probably exotic, and not yet recognised by any specific name in this country" (L. O. Howard), in absinthium, althaea, apocynum, arnicæ radix, asclepias, aspidosperma, aurantii amara cortex, aurantii dulcis cortex, belladonna folia, belladonna radix, bryonia, buchu (long), colocynththis, cypripedium, dulcamara, eriodictyon, ergota, eucalyptus, euonymus, glycyrrhiza, humulus, hydastis, jalapa, lappa, pepo, podophyllum, phytolaccae radix, quillaia, sassafras medulla, triticum, ulmus, zingiber (unlimed).

There are here two, if not three, new species—namely, *Lathridius filiformis* (fig. 2), an insect resembling this very



Figs. 1 AND 2.—*Lathridius filiformis*, Gyll. ($\times 30$).

much, but differing from it somewhat (as seen in fig. 1), and a species of unnamed *Coleoptera* (fig. 3). Nos. 1 and 2, named

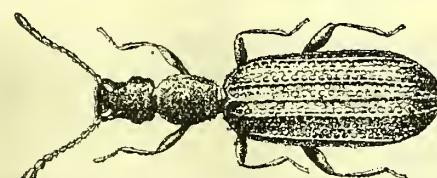


FIG. 3.—An unnamed *Coleoptera*, probably exotic ($\times 30$).

by L. O. Howard as *Lathridius filiformis*, appear to differ in the structure of the elytra and the form of the thorax. Of No. 1 were found only two specimens, one in ulmus and another in zingiber (unlimed).

The most abundant pest in the crude-drug stock appears to be *Sitodrepa panicea* (fig. 4), belonging to the family *Ptinidae*, a family whose members in both larval and adult stages feed on dead, dry vegetable and animal matter. This family comprises a number of small beetles rarely exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length and usually brownish in colour. A prominent characteristic is the hood-like pro-thorax, the head being so bent or drawn back under it as to be almost concealed (fig. 4 b). The grub of this beetle is a small white grub with three pairs of legs and strong, dark-brown jaws. The grub when lying at rest usually assumes a semi-circular position (see c, fig. 4). They feed voraciously upon drugs, and pass from the grub to the beetle very rapidly. The beetle feeds upon the drug by means of strong, biting jaws.

The whole life of the insect is passed in the can or container of the drug. It is almost omnivorous, and has been found

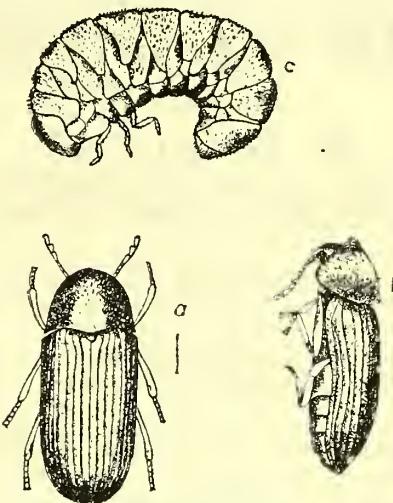


FIG. 4.—*Sitodrepa panicea*, Linne. a, dorsal view; b, side view; c, larva.

regaling itself upon calumba, aconite, mustard, belladonna, pokeroot, angelica, ginseng, &c.

The following are amongst the drugs not attacked by insects:—

Acacia	Guaiaci lign. et res.	Quassia
Aloe	Guarana	Quercus alba
Ammoniacum	Hamamelis	Resina
Anisi semen	Haematoxylon	Rhamnus purshiana
Anthemis	Ichthyocolla	Rhus glabra
Asafotida	Ioula	Rhus toxicodendron
Benzoin	Irid. rad.	Rheum
Calamus	Juglans	Rosa gall. et cent.
Calumba	Kamala	Salvia
Cannabis indica	Kiwo	Sabina
Cambogia	Krameria	Sambucus
Camphora	Lactucarium	Sanguinaria
Capsicum	Leptandra	Santalum rubrum
Cardamomi semen	Linum	Sautonica
Carum	Lobelia	Sarsaparilla
Caryophyllus	Lupulin	Sassafras
Cascarilla	Macis	Scammonium
Cassia fistula	Manna	Scilla
Cassia cortex	Marrubium	Scoparius
Catechu	Matico	Senna
Chondrus	Mastiche	Senega
Chirata	Mentha pip. et vir.	Serpentaria
Cinchona rubra	Mezereum	Sinapis alb. et nig.
Cinnicifuga	Myr'stia	Spigelia
Cinnamomi cort.	Myrrha	Staphisagria
Coca	Nux vomica	Strophanthus
Coccus	Physostigma	Stramonii fol. et sem.
Colchici sem. et rad.	Pimenta	Tamarindus
Crocus	Pulsatilla	Taraxacum
Cusso	Oleum theobromatis	Terebinthina
Cubeba	Opium	Tragacantha
Digitalis	Pareira	Uva ursi
Galla	Pilocarpus	Valeriana
Geisheimum	Piper	Vanilla
Gentiana	Pix burgundicæ	Veratrum viride
Grindelia	Prunis virginiana	Zingiber, limed; un-
Granat. rad. cort.	Pyrethrum	limed badly infested

In fighting insects which infest drug-tissues it is needless, to say that those means employed by entomologists, consisting of arsenical sprays, &c., are out of the question. It is possible, however, to use a treatment which is practicable—namely, the treatment of the drug with the vapour of carbon bisulphide. This vapour is deadly to insects in all stages except the egg stage. If the infested drug be placed in a tight vessel, after removing the dust and débris caused by the attack of the insects, and a quantity of bisulphide of carbon, sufficient to charge the vessel with vapour, introduced, any insects in the vessel will be killed. Chloroform may also be used with advantage.

"How to Disinfect"

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THE IMPORTATION OF PROPRIETARY ARTICLES INTO FRANCE.

THE letter from Mr. Nicholls, the well-known English chemist at Nice, which appeared in our last issue, again raises the vexed question of the importation of foreign

proprietary articles into France. It is an ever-bubbling question, with occasional boilings-over. France has made herself notorious during the past twelve years or so by the narrow-mindedness of her commercial policy. Perhaps the Russophile proclivities of the Republic account for the Muscovite, may we not say Tartar, methods she adopts in her trade-relations with foreign countries. If that is so, France has been an apt pupil, for even Russia is more liberal than she where foreign goods are concerned. It is not so much that France is a high-tariff country. We are by this time pretty well accustomed to high tariffs everywhere, and if France chooses to "protect" her people (nearly half of whom would rather go without that protection) that is her affair. All we ask at present is that British goods, having once paid the high Customs-duties, should not be further interfered with. It is hoped that the representations which are to be made by our Foreign Office to the gentleman (whoever he happens to be this week) who holds the Portfolio of Commerce in France may be successful, but we confess that we have no great expectation that they will. If they fail, we can only wait until the gods remove the blindness from our neighbour's commercial vision. It is natural that Mr. Nicholls and other English chemists in France who are daily asked, mostly by British or American customers, for foreign proprietary articles which French red-tapeism forbids them to import, should cry out for retaliation, and we sympathise with them in heart when they ask why *Vin Mariani* and a host of other French products should be admitted freely into this country when a like treatment is not meted out to our goods by the foreigner. But the Free-trade policy to which Britain stands committed, and the wisdom of which we do not now discuss, lays it down as a fundamental truth that we do not buy foreign goods to please the foreigner, but to please ourselves, and that the reason why we place no duty upon exotic products is that it pays us to make it as easy as possible for our people to get just what they want at the lowest cost. We cannot expect the reversal of this Free-trade system in Britain because of a patent-medicine squabble, or even on a thyroid-tablet issue. The plain truth is that the French, taking a view of their own advantage diametrically opposed to that which we entertain, are determined to make it as difficult as they can for the foreigner to sell them anything. Proprietary articles and new medicinal preparations offer a handy field for the exercise of fiscal ingenuity, inasmuch as the importation of "secret remedies" into France is prohibited under an Act of the first Republic, and any remedy is held to be "secret" of which the formula is not published in the Codex. Certain well-known foreign preparations are, however, expressly permitted to be imported, and it is open to any manufacturer to ask that his goods shall be put upon that favoured footing, to which end he has to send samples and particulars of the composition to the Ministry of Commerce in Paris, which in turn hands them over to the Ecole de Pharmacie for "analysis" and report. The proviso that goods must be described in the Codex in order to be imported of course excludes such articles as thyroid preparations, which were not known when the last edition of that book was published. Foreign manufacturers whose goods are in demand in France, and who cannot obtain permission to import them legitimately, naturally, in many cases, seize underground ways of introducing their articles, to the detriment, of course, of the French Customs. The prohibitory rules are occasionally allowed to lie more or less dormant, but within the last year the French authorities appear to have become extremely vigilant in regard to patent medicines, and the present outcry is the result. Entering into particulars which we have gathered from certain firms whose specialties used to have a fair sale in France, we find that Messrs.

Coleman & Co. (Limited), of Norwich, at one time did a good business in their Wincarnis in the western parts of France. This, however, appears to have been stopped entirely, and in one case a consignment of their goods was returned to them with a bill of about 5*l.* for official charges. Many customers of theirs, to whom Wincarnis has been prescribed medically, cannot now obtain it in any health resort in France. A particularly curious instance of the effect of the French regulations is that of Roche's Embrocation, which had long enjoyed a certain reputation in France. The proprietors, Messrs. Edwards & Son, not long ago spent a considerable amount of money in advertising in the French papers with a view of further increasing its sale. No sooner was this done than the importation of the embrocation was prohibited altogether, not improbably because some pharmacists, who saw the means of turning a dishonest penny by manufacturing an imitation of the article, gave information to the authorities. We have been shown several letters from French customers of the firm in which they complain that they have to turn away many customers for the embrocation. Only last week Messrs. F. Newbery & Sons were advised by the English Parcel-post Office that a parcel of fluid extracts, sent by their firm to France, had been refused admission by the French Customs. It was found that the original label on the box had been removed, and that there was no definite means of tracing the sender of the consignment. The English Customs, however, claimed duty on the alcoholic contents of the preparations, and refused to enter into the question whether they had been originally exported from England or not. Piperazine preparations have also lately been frequently rejected, and the importation of Valentine's Meat-juice is likewise rendered extremely difficult. Thyroid extracts, however, we are assured, can still occasionally be imported under the denomination of "Viande comprimée" (compressed meat). Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., needless to say, are also in constant difficulties with the French Customs. One of their troubles is that some of their goods, which have been expressly permitted to be imported, are occasionally stopped if imported in sizes or shapes different from those approved of by the Ecole de Pharmacie. The chief sufferers, the firm consider, are not they, but the patients for whom the goods are prescribed, and in certain cases it is found that persons sojourning abroad for the sake of their health are forsaking the French watering-places in favour of those in other countries where Officialdom does not make it impossible for them to obtain the remedies they require. This phase of the difficulty is one which merits, we should think, the serious consideration of the French authorities. Probably nine-tenths of the English remedies which would be sent to France, were the importation permitted, would be consumed by British visitors, and it may be pointed out that it is a suicidal policy to place difficulties in the way of the influx of foreign visitors, to which many French watering-places owe their very existence. Mr. John Morgan Richards has so far experienced no difficulties. The article of his which has the largest sale are the "Pink Pills," and these are made in France; similarly Lactopeptine, for which there is also some demand, is sent over to Dunkirk in bulk, and there put up under the control of a French pharmacist. This mode of procedure, indeed, appears to offer the best solution of the present difficulty. The trouble, however, is to find a French firm of chemists that can be trusted with the duty of putting up the preparation either from bulk or from the separate ingredients, and labelling it with the original labels. The chief obstacle in the way of obtaining redress of the grievance by a diplomatic way is that the French will think that the removal of the grievance would exclusively

or materially benefit the English manufacturers, while in reality it is their countrymen who would reap the chief advantage of a more liberal interpretation of the laws. The continuation of the present system can only benefit fraudulent imitators, whom we do not suppose it is the wish of the French Government to protect.

THE NEW DUTY ON COCOA-BUTTER.

ON Thursday last the House of Commons, after a short debate, but without a division, adopted the following Government motion:—"That the duty of Customs now payable on cocoa or chocolate, ground, prepared, or in any way manufactured, under the provisions of the Act 42 & 43 Vict., c. 21, s. 3, shall be payable on that product of the cocoa-bean which is generally known as cocoa-butter." As the House of Lords no longer interferes with questions of Ways and Means, the adopted motion has now the force of law, and accordingly a duty of 2d. per lb., equal to about 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, is now levied on cocoa-butter, as it has long been on imported ground, prepared or manufactured cocoa, while the raw cocoa-beans used by British cocoa manufacturers pay, as heretofore, a duty of 1d. per lb.

At first sight the contention that cocoa-butter—which is the fatty oil extracted from the cocoa-bean in the preparation of the commercial product known as pure cocoa, and therefore essentially a product falling under the denomination of "cocoa, in any way manufactured"—should pay the same duty as foreign prepared cocoa appears entirely reasonable. That was the view of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and of the House of Commons. It would appear, in fact, that cocoa-butter has hitherto been admitted duty free by a pure misapprehension on the part of the Customs officers, who have looked upon it as a vegetable fat or wax. In all probability its duty-free importation might have continued to the Greek Kalends but for the action of the German Government, who have recently extended to the cocoa manufacturers of the Fatherland a drawback bounty on exported cocoa-butter equal to that which they have already been in the habit of allowing those gentlemen upon exported cocoa. This step has called forth remonstrances on the part of certain British cocoa manufacturers, who contend that the German bounty-fed cocoa-butter competes unfairly on the British market with their own product, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer's motion is the result of the British makers' complaint.

If this were the whole of the matter there would scarcely be room for doubt that the action of the Government was justified, and no one, we fancy, would have objected to it. But the question is much more complicated, and the British cocoa manufacturers, it seems, are not quite unanimous in welcoming the duty. The great firm of Fry & Sons, of Bristol, for instance, are understood to be hostile to it, and their opposition was voiced in the House of Commons by Mr. J. Hudson Kearley, the Liberal member for Devonport, who, as a partner in the wholesale tea and coffee firm of Kearley & Tonge, may be expected to know something about cocoa. Another Liberal, Mr. Thos. Lough, the member for West Islington, who happens to be chairman of the Tower Tea Company, also took part in the debate, though on which side is not clear from his remarks. We have been at some pains this week to collect the views of the leading British and foreign cocoa-manufacturers on the matter, and find, as we expected, that the first-named, with the single exception of Messrs. Fry, are strongly in favour of the duty. Not all of our informants care for the publication of their names in connection with the expression of

their opinion, but their arguments for and against the duty may be summed up as follows:—

The two principal cocoa-manufacturing countries are England and Holland. Germany, in spite of the bounty-allowance to which we have referred, takes quite a back seat. Now there are, both in England and in Holland, manufacturers whose output of cocoa-butter as a by-product in the manufacture of "pure cocoa" is larger than their requirements of cocoa-butter as an ingredient in confectionery (which is the purpose to which the article is mainly put, the pharmaceutical use for suppositories and the like being comparatively small), and who are therefore compelled to throw their excess on the market. This is mainly done by public auctions, held once a month in London and Amsterdam. About 400 tons of Cadbury's cocoa-butter alone are disposed of in this way in London every year, and a rather larger quantity of Van Houten's cocoa-butter is similarly sold at Amsterdam. The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave certain figures showing the percentage proportion of cocoa-powder, cocoa-butter, and manufacturing waste yielded by the roasted beans. His figures are considerably at variance with those supplied us by Messrs. C. Barry & Co., of Finsbury, and by Messrs. C. J. van Houten & Zoon, the leading Dutch cocoa manufacturers, and we hope, for the sake of the British cocoa makers, that the Chancellor was misinformed, and that more cocoa-powder can be made out of a given quantity of beans than he seems to think. Here are the figures:—

	Cocoa-powder Per cent.	Cocoa-butter Per cent.	Waste Per cent.	Beans = 100
Sir M. Hicks-Beach	.. 44.5	32.5	23	
Messrs. van Houten	.. 55	23	22	= 100
Messrs. C. Barry & Co.	.. 34	50	16	= 100

Now, raw cocoa-beans are admitted into Holland duty free, while the British manufacturer has to pay a duty of 1d. per lb., or, say, about 18 per cent. *ad valorem* on the raw beans, which is equal to a duty of 1½d. per lb. on the roasted article. To that extent, therefore, the Britisher is already initially handicapped in competing with the Hollander in neutral markets, and it therefore speaks volumes for the excellence of Messrs. Cadbury's manufacturing arrangements that they should still be able largely to increase their export trade year by year, as they assure us they do. In addition to this initial vantage ground, the Hollander has hitherto been able to send his cocoa-butter into the British market duty free, while the British maker (who is allowed no drawback or bounty) really pays from one-third to one-fourth of the whole duty on that percentage of cocoa-butter contained in the bean. In other words, if, say, Messrs. Cadbury Brothers were to establish a branch of their cocoa-works in Holland, they would, under the old arrangement, have been able to import that portion of their cocoa butter made across the Channel into Britain duty free, while on that made in Birmingham they would have paid an equivalent of about 1½d. per lb. in duty.

The chief argument of those who oppose the duty is that cocoa-butter is employed in very large quantities in the preparation of confectionery, and that it is therefore to the interest of that industry to obtain it as cheaply as possible. The first effect of the new duty will be to diminish, if not to stop, the importation of foreign cocoa-butter in this country; the next, to increase the price of the English product sold by such firms as Cadbury Brothers, Epps & Co., Taylor Brothers, and others. The total quantity of cocoa-butter now produced in England is believed to be barely sufficient to meet the requirements; but the output is probably increased somewhat faster than the demand. The

new duty will, it is argued, come out of the pockets of the British users of cocoa-butter, who will thus be handicapped in their competition with those British confectionery manufacturers who themselves produce cocoa butter. It is further argued that foreign "pure cocoa" or "cocoa-powder" already pays 2d. per lb. duty, against 1d. per lb. paid by the British cocoa maker for his beans, and that this difference more than countervails any advantage the foreigner may have reaped from the free importation of cocoa-butter, inasmuch as the English maker only pays 9s. 4d. duty per cwt. of beans, while the foreigner, at the rate of 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of cocoa-powder yielded by 1 cwt. of beans, pays 10s. 3d. per cwt., and that therefore, so long as the foreign manufacturer does not send more than 23 lbs. of cocoa-butter to every 45 lbs. of cocoa-powder, the Britisher has nothing to complain of. But the advocates of the duty contend that only about 20 per cent. of the cocoa-powder made in Holland is imported into England, while the proportion of Dutch cocoa-butter which has been sent hither is much greater. This the foreign makers deny. They say that the proportion of foreign cocoa-butter to cocoa powder imported into England is much less than 45 : 100, and they maintain that while benefiting only at most half-a-dozen, British cocoa manufacturers, the new duty will not interfere with their trade to any large extent.

AN M.P. ON THE SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL.

MR. A. CAMERON CORBETT, M.P., President of the Early-closing Association, has written for the new monthly review, *To-morrow*, a short but effective article in support of the Shops (Early-Closing) Bill, of which he is one of the backers. Mr. Corbett does not reply minutely to the objections which have been raised against the Bill, but he sketches vividly the evil which it aims to remedy, and details the provisions of the measure submitted. In regard to the two-thirds majority of any trade which the Bill provides shall be requisite before the measure could be put in operation, Mr. Corbett points out that this is a condition which involves more unanimity than seems to be the case at first sight. "You require," he says, "a majority greatly exceeding two to one, as there are a great number of men who could neither be got to sign for or against." There are, he believes, very few members of Parliament who could get even one-third of their constituents to sign a resolution of confidence in them. The Shop Hours Act has done some good in limiting the employment of persons under 18 years of age, but Mr. Corbett explains how difficult it is to obtain the necessary evidence to get convictions under this Act. Mr. Corbett also shows how, in the localities where the grievance is greatest, the voluntary principle is doomed to failure. The traders of a locality unite and agree on an hour for closing. Then when they have begun to enjoy the comfort and leisure which earlier hours mean,

Some one trader, generally a man just starting in the neighbourhood, finds it easier to get hold of his neighbours' customers while their shops are closed, and keeps open for later hours or during the half-holiday. The less resolute of the traders in his immediate neighbourhood cannot bear the strain of seeing their customers taken away. They do not fear so much the loss of custom during the hours when they are closed as the permanent loss of customers who, having gone to the newcomer once, are very likely, if he gives them satisfaction, to go to him again. This is no fancy picture. It is the ever-repeated experience of over half a century of voluntary work.

In reviewing what he thinks would be effect of the legislation he advocates, Mr. Corbett says shopkeepers would be

enriched by saving their expenses and having their businesses unimpaired. To many assistants the conditions of life would be changed. Leisure for study and time for recreation would succeed the drudgery of continuous monotonous toil. The experiment has been tried in our colonies, and none of the evils predicted for it have been found. When once on the statute-book, Mr. Corbett thinks there will be as little chance of repealing it as there would be of repealing the Bank Holidays Act.

FATAL FORMULÆ.

Nothing short of hanging an editor some day will suffice to convince the public of the danger of following the compounding advice given professedly in answer to correspondents. We quoted a fortnight ago the deadly stuff which *Success* recommended as a lemonade, and now a correspondent sends us a leaf from *Woman's Life*, wherein "Aunt Miranda" advises Gertie, and Marie, and Violet, and the rest of them how to make themselves attractive. On this page "Nigger" is told that indigestion plays havoc with the complexion, and she should therefore try the following prescription:—

Bicarbonate of potash	2 dr.
Tinct. of nux vomica	'2 oz.
Peppermint water to	6 oz.

Dose: One tablespoonful three times a day after food.

"Nigger" may be trusted to ask no more questions if she follows this advice. "Aunt Miranda" then thanks "Gipsey" for her welcome letter, and proceeds to deal with Violet's freckles. She is more considerate with Violet than with "Nigger." She does not care to prescribe powerful remedies, she says, though it is a pity she had not developed that discretion before she slew poor "Nigger." Violet is therefore advised to take—

Oil of citron	4
Pure white wax	2

Melt with a gentle heat, and apply at night.

The few fatalities which result from the publication of such formulæ are not much of a testimony to the circulation or influence of these journals. Perhaps they are better proof of the protecting care which chemists exercise over the community.

HOW TO GET MORE LEGISLATION.

We have received "with Sir Edward Clarke's compliments" a copy of a pamphlet on "Parliamentary Procedure," in which that eminent lawyer and parliamentarian explains how urgently necessary it is that some means should be adopted to restore to the House of Commons the power to do some legislative work of which modern developments of party warfare have deprived it. It is undoubtedly very irritating to earnest reformers to find the patient and tedious work of a session all wasted because of the congested condition of legislative business when the session gets about half-way through its course. This experience is the almost invariable lot of those who are concerned with Bills of what would not be regarded as of first-rate importance—measures of class or trade interest, for example, or Bills of the character of the Shops (Early-closing) Bill. It is, as we all know, next to impossible nowadays to get such measures passed unless they are so colourless as to excite no opposition at all, or unless an agitation can be raised in support of them outside of Parliament which it would be dangerous to defy. Sir Edward Clarke's remedy is to allow the resumption of the consideration of Bills after they have passed a second reading at the stage of committee which they may have reached in the succeeding session of the same Parliament. This course was advocated by a speech in Parliament by Sir Edward Clarke in 1882, and it was supported by a

majority of a Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed in 1890 to consider the means of facilitating the consideration of Bills. Mr. Labouchere, who is not in constant agreement with Sir Edward Clarke, has lately been urging the necessity of some such modification of the present standing orders if parliamentary procedure is to be rescued from the condition of a farce to which it is rapidly being reduced. The argument against the adoption of Sir Edward Clarke's proposal is that under the present rules we get legislation enough, and that new Acts of Parliament should only be passed when the need for them is so obvious and urgent that they are pushed through by the Government, or that nobody cares to take the responsibility of resisting them. It is generally agreed, however, that we are getting beyond that condition now, and little fault could be found, we should think, with a system which allowed a Bill at least two sessions to fight its way through Parliament, if not, as Mr. Labouchere urges, making the whole life of a Parliament one continuous session.

BORAX SOAP.

Sir James Sawyer, M.D., of Birmingham, writing to the *Lancet*, says it would tend to the precision of the art of medicine and to the advancement of pharmacy, no less than to accuracy in the exhibition of our remedies and to better reliability of therapeutic information, if medicated soaps, which are now largely used, were prescribed with precise directions to the compounding in our authoritative magistral formula. This would be preferable, he believes, to "ordering" ready-made and often proprietary compounds, which are not seldom of doubtful composition, and the recommendation of which degrades the important art of prescribing, and tends, in ways which will be readily appreciated, both to the professional deterioration of the physician and to the commercial disadvantage of the dispenser. *Sapo durus*, B.P., furnishes an excellent basis for magistral medication by the addition of remedies designed for application to the skin, and prescribed according to the particular requirements of individual cases; the added drugs can be well incorporated with this basis secundum artem by a competent pharmacist. For example, in a case in which a soothing saponaceous detergent is desired, the following prescription may be given:—*Sodii baboratis*, 10 per cent.; *saponis duri*, 90 per cent.; *olei rosae*, 1 minim to the oz.: *misce, fiat sapo secundum artem*. In some cases a weaker preparation may be used containing only $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. or even 5 per cent. of borax. He has prescribed this application with much success, especially in the slighter cases of skin-diseases affecting the face. While we sympathise with Sir James Sawyer in his good intentions, we cannot say he has made a good choice as the basis of reform. The production of medicated soaps is exactly one of those things which the competent pharmacist cannot economically or profitably place on the same footing as the production of pills or suppositories, and since several firms of high reputation make medicinal soaps of unimpeached exactitude and greater elegance than the pharmacist could possibly achieve, Sir James's zeal is slightly misplaced.

THE DEFACEMENT OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

Dr. W. R. Gowers, of Queen Anne Street, W., protests in the *Lancet* against the defacement of prescriptions by druggists' impressions of rubber stamps. A prescription is not the property of the druggist to put on it his name and address. If there is any justification for such stamping the back of the prescription is free to receive these many-coloured marks. He also objects to alterations in prescriptions by dispensers, and states that he has seen several prescriptions in which alterations in dose had been made. Against every one of the constituents there had been written in ink by the druggist the initials of the firm and the date in

figures. In one of these there was repeated five times "A. & H., 16/4/96" (the date is at random). Dr. Gowers thinks the matter ought to be the subject of a definite rule by the Pharmaceutical Society, which should soon terminate the objectionable practice. With much of what Dr. Gowers says dispensers will agree, for it has long been a complaint in the drug-trade that the stamping of prescriptions is an objectionable and unnecessary practice.

WEST-END TASTE.

Mr. St. Clair Thomson, M.D.Lond., M.R.C.P.Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng., a West-end physician, who acts as London correspondent of the *Therapeutic Gazette*, writing in reference to the Kitson v. Playfair case, says that Mr. Justice Hawkins "throughout the trial showed an amount of bias that is happily rare on our Bench. He is a homœopath and a supporter of other fads, including anti-vivisection, although as a 'noble sportsman' he is a patron of the turf." The best comment upon this opinion of Mr. Thomson's is that nothing like it has appeared, or is likely to appear, in any English medical journal.

A FAMOUS MATERIA-MEDICA COLLECTION.

At present the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has one of the finest collections of *materia medica* in the world, but with the acquisition of the collections referred to in the North British Branch report this week it will certainly be easily first, if there is any doubt about the Society not being so now. The museum of the Royal College of Physicians contains the unique collection of cinchona-barks and South American drugs made by Martins. The late Dr. T. A. G. Balfour, an uncle of Professor Bayley Balfour, was exceedingly proud of the collection, but grieved that it was practically unknown to science. When it is transferred a few hundred yards in a straight line from Queen Street to 36 York Place, it will give young Edinburgh pharmacists an excellent opportunity of distinguishing themselves in pharmacognosy—a branch of pharmaceutical knowledge much neglected considering its fascination, which should not be the case in such a favoured city as Edinburgh. We congratulate the North British Branch on its splendid acquisition.

ALOES AS AN OPIUM-ADULTERANT.

Imported Indian opium is the luxury of the Chinese capitalist; the home-grown drug is the necessity of his wage-earning fellow-Celestial. But the costliness of the foreign opium has led to "experimental introduction of a new industry," as it is nicely called by a British Consul, in China for "converting" the native into the foreign drug. The process is a secret one, but it is known that Curaçao aloes plays a leading part in it, and it appears to be the same as the Indian process described by Mr. T. Stephenson in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, vol. xlvi., page 124. "The business," we are informed, "is at present quietly conducted on a very modest scale by some Chinese from Singapore, who have not only enlisted the temporary services of foreign experts, but have imported three skilled Indian workmen from Calcutta." Considering the relative prices of Chinese and imported opium, the scheme should prove lucrative, and may contribute to the further reduction in the demand for foreign opium in China.

HEARD AT AN AMERICAN DRUGGISTS' MEETING.—"Yes, I have a stock of old plasters I've been trying to get rid of for years, but—" "Belong to a church?" "Biggest in town, of course." "Suggest a wood-sawing contest for the benefit of the repairs fund, or something or other, and—" "Gee! Thank you, old man, I'll have the boys' backs decorated to beat the poster craze within two weeks. Say, a fellow does learn something at these conventions! Come and have—" "Sure!"

Up-to-date Perfumes.

SEVERAL of the formulæ contributed by Mr. G. H. Du-belle to our issue of June 20 were deficient in respect to quantities, owing to an accident in the machine-room. We therefore, repeat four of the formulæ:—

Pine Forest Cologne.

		Oz.
Rectified spirit	.. .. .. ..	112
Spirit of rose-geranium	.. .. .. ..	7½
Oil of pinus picea	.. .. .. ..	4
Oil of Australian eucalyptus	.. .. .. ..	1
Tr. of ambergris	.. .. .. ..	1
Tr. of civet	.. .. .. ..	1
Oil of Mitcham lavender	.. .. .. ..	½
Oil of bergamot	.. .. .. ..	½
Oil of lemon	.. .. .. ..	½

Mix and filter.

Costa Rica Water.

	Oz.	
Rectified spirit	112
Extract of jasmin	16
Spirit of vanillin	4
Oil of ylang-ylang	3
Tr. of ambergris	1
Tr. of musk	1
Otto of rose	1
Oil of neroli petale	½

Biflora Cologne.

	Oz.	
Rectified spirit	112
Eau de millefleurs	8
Tr. of ambergris	4
Oil of Mitcham lavender	1
Oil of verbena	1
Oil of orange	¾
Oil of bergamot	½
Oil of cloves	½
Oil of neroli petale	½
Otto of rose	½

Mix and filter.

Aloysia Cologne.

	Oz.	
Rectified spirit	112
Espri de rose triple	4
Spirit of rose-geranium	4
Oil of lemon	4
Tr. of ambergris	2
Oil of verbena	¾
Oil of orange	¾
Oil of bergamot	½

Mix and filter.

The Assistant in South Africa.

A SUBSCRIBER who was formerly engaged in a prominent South African pharmacy sends us the appended printed regulations of the firm, which may be useful as a guide. Our correspondent remarks that "each assistant works fourteen hours in twenty-four." We omit only those rules which clearly identify the establishment.

HOURS AND DUTIES.

Dispensary to be opened at 7 A.M. sharp, when one of the assistants shall be on monthly until 8 A.M. The others will come on at 8 A.M. The assistant on between 7 and 8 shall go to breakfast from 8 until 9 sharp. At 8.45 A.M. on all days morning coats must be worn until closing-time, and on no occasion holiday attire; white waistcoats may be worn in summer. Toilet must be always attended to out of business-hours. No leaving premises unless on firm's business. On no occasion during business-hours must there be less than two on duty without it being reported (including Sundays and public holidays). Tea must be taken from 5 to 6 and 6 to 7. Saturdays half hour for dinner, those who are off leave for dinner and for good 1.15 on that day.

Sundays and public holidays close from 1.30 until 3 P.M.

Holidays.— Each assistant will be entitled to ten days holiday a year; one must only be away at a time, and must make full arrangement with his fellow-assistants and report same. Public holidays are to be divided amongst assistants, the intervening days in public holidays all are to be at work. One assistant may go off once a month, in weekly turns, from 2 P.M. until 6 P.M. The assistants who are on in the evening shall attend night-bell or telephone promptly, and see telephone and lights are switched off properly. Complaints to be reported at once to Telephone Exchange.

Dispensary-tiles to be washed out every morning, not mopped.

Mirrors to be cleaned every morning, those behind bottles when necessary.

All bottles, jars, cases, &c., to be dusted every morning. One assistant to take entire charge in turn of dispensing-counter, to be dusted and filled daily, and kept in order.

All prescriptions to be checked.

No spirits, &c., of any kind to be drunk in bedrooms, &c.

No smoking in dispensary or office.

Prescriptions to be copied and indexed each night before retiring.

A clean alphabetical copy of day-book to be given to book-keeper before 9 A.M.

Stock must be taken once a year by all hands.

An order must be made out once a week.

We shall consider it the bounden duty of all employés to report the slightest irregularity.

On no pretext are those on duty at night to leave the premises.

No lolling over counter, or encouraging friends to make the place a rendezvous.

The nurses' register to be kept properly posted up, and letters sent every ten days to inquire about engagements.

Personalities.

MR. RIVERS LANGTON, of Melbourne, is paying a short visit to England.

MR. HENRY B. PLATT, the owner of Platt's chlorides, a well-known American speciality, is in London just now preparing for a coaching-trip. Mr. Platt was formerly in partnership with Mr. A. B. Scott, of emulsion fame.

MR. SKINNER, late of the Guy's Hospital Dispensary, has been appointed dispenser at the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway, in place of Mr. E. P. Dunn, the late dispenser, who has commenced business for himself.

A NUMBER of South African druggists have recently been in London, amongst them being Mr. P. J. Peterson, of Cape Town, Mr. Ruffell, of Kimberley, and Mr. De Bell, of Jagersfontein. The two latter gentlemen have proceeded to their old homes in Norway, but will return to London later in the season.

AMONG the representatives of the American wholesale-drug-trade now in England are Mr. J. McKesson, jun., of McKesson & Robbins, and Mr. Dodge, of Dodge & Olcott, New York, both of whom inspected, on Wednesday, the goods on show for the drug-auctions. Mr. Dalley, of Lazell, Dalley & Co., is expected here about the middle of the month.

MR. W. F. NEWMAN, J.P., of Falmouth, who has been in business as a chemist in that town for over forty years, has retired, and hopes to spend the decline of his honourable life with his son, the Rev. F. W. Newman, vicar of St. George's Church, Truro. Besides serving on the Bench, Mr. Newman has been a churchwarden and treasurer of the local Primrose League Habitation.

THE EXAMINER was questioning candidates about various physiological matters, and during an interval he put some of his own blood on a microscope-slide. The next candidate who presented himself was asked what it was. "Blood, sir," he replied with assurance. "What blood?" "It is the blood of a reptile, sir," he answered glibly, and the examiner showed further traits of reptilian origin by ploughing the poor chap.

Pharmacy in Haïti.

By E. L. N. ST. CYR.

THE pharmacist in Haïti is looked upon as a professional man, and he is on a footing with doctors and lawyers. To practise pharmacy in the island everyone must be qualified and obtain a licence from the Government. The examination for qualification is very simple, consisting of the usual subjects, and is conducted by the School of Medicine of Port-au-Prince, but all diplomas from Europe are accepted; the holder simply has to submit his paper to the "Jury Médicale" in order to be approved, which they generally do without any difficulty, and grant their licence to practise in the course of a few days.

The practice of pharmacy is carried on in the same style as in France—that is, the pharmacist deals solely with pharmaceutical and chemical preparations, although the tendency of late has been to imitate the American style. The "Codex Medicamentarius" is the only Pharmacopoeia recognised. In the pharmacies no "soda-water fountain" is to be found, as is usual in the United States and Jamaica.

Doctors do not dispense their own prescriptions, as is the custom in Jamaica. The doctors in Jamaica charge 5s. per visit, including medicines. Doctors in Haïti, on the other hand, charge two piastres (7s.) per visit à domicile, and four piastres (3*4* or 14*s.*), which does not include medicine. This tariff is charged in Aux Cayes; but in Port-au-Prince and Jacmel it is \$10 per visit. Midwifery cases are from \$50 to \$150.

The prices charged for an ordinary 3 oz. to 4 oz. mixture vary from \$1 to \$2, and, as other things are in proportion, pharmacy is one of the best occupations in some parts of Haïti. In an ordinary pharmacy a clear profit of about 30 piastres (or about 6*l.*) is made per diem; on Saturdays about \$100 to \$200 are coined, due to the mass of country people who come to town chiefly to buy castor oil, manna, Glauber's salt, and Epsom salt. A great deal of "coupe rise," or sulphate of iron, is sold, in order to add to a decoction of logwood, which is extensively used for dyeing.

Botanical.

"NEAR a quiet little village of a trim New England town
Lie the peaceful quiet acres of a farm of fair renown,
Where the fond pursuit of botany
Doth banish all monotony
And tan the faded cheek a ruddy brown.

"Here Euphorbia Cyparissia waves a welcome unto all,
Ampelopsis quinquefolia spreads its mantle o'er the wall,
While from Salix babylonica
And Cydonia japonica
With cheerful chirp the wrens and robins call.

"Leonurus and Linaria lead our steps along the laue
Where Lilium and Trillium and Uvularia reign,
And Asclepias Coriaria—
Good for 'greens' if not for beauty—
Like Urtica, though its touch entaileth pain.

"Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum the grassy fields adorn,
The fragrance of Trifolium on every breeze is borne;
And the tall Verbascum Thapsus
In very rapture wraps us,
As its kingly candle kindles in the moru.

"In the woods the Auenone nemorosa you will find
Mitchella, Tiarella, and the lithi Celastrus twined,
And the Monotropa Hypopitys—
A very spooky cup it's
That may scare the superstitiously inclined.

"There are many more that flourish on this fair and fertile
farm,
I should like to name them all and
Catalogue each charm—
The curious Cruciferæ, Umbelliferæ,
The laughing Labia'æ, the glorious Aggregatae,
Rosaceæ, Malvaceæ—but do not take alarm,
I'm only just a botanist, and I really mean no harm."

Liverpool Echo.

The English Drug-crops.

WE have received the following from Messrs. Geo. Allen & Co., drug-growers, of Ampthill, Beds:—

The drought throughout the early spring months has caused not only the weight of herb per acre, but also the yield of extract, to fall short of the nominal percentage. The quality, however, we consider to be superior to that of some previous years.

ACONITE is a fair crop. The demand for the extract seems to have fallen off in recent years, due, we presume, to the want of confidence on the part of prescribers in the strength of this drug. Our stock of this plant (the true *Napellus*) we have had in culture for the past fifty years.

BELLADONNA.—This does not appear to have suffered so much from drought as other less deeply-rooted plants, and the crop may be described as quite up to the average.

CONIUM has come to hand freely.

DIGITALIS—A fair supply. We note that the *Succus* seems to be taking the place of the green extract, the demand for which seems to decrease from year to year. The juice from the English biennial plant is, we think, well worthy of the attention of medical men.

ELATERIUM.—The crop is looking well, but it is yet too early to speak of yield.

HENBANE.—Owing to the drought of last season, as well as that of the present, this uncertain crop was exceedingly short. We cannot, therefore, understand the present low quotations, and do not see how they are to be maintained, unless some stocks held over from last season are now coming forward.

LAVENDER.—The late open winter appears to have been favourable to this crop. Young plantations are looking well.

LETTUCE (*Lactuca virosa*).—The crop is abundant.

POPPIES.—A good average crop; little appearance of any disease. They will be early on the market this season.

ROSES.—Not quite so good as usual, owing to spring drought.

VIOLETS.—The plants for flowering next season are looking remarkably well, strong, and healthy.

New Books.

Corby, Hy. *Technical Education: a National Necessity. Its Uses and Advantages.* Paper covers. Pp. 38. 3*d.* (J. Mahony, Cork.)

Cowan, T. W. *The British Beekeepers' Guide-book to the Management of Bees in Morale Comb Hives, and the Use of the Extractor.* Illus. 14*th* edit. 12*mo.* Pp. 138. Sewed. 1*s. 6d.* (Houlston.)

Dalton, N. *Aids to Medicine.* Parts 1-4. 12*mo.* Pp. 132, 138, 140, 128. Sewed. Each 2*s.* (Baillière.)

Hurst, G. H. *Painters' Colours, Oils, and Varnishes.* 2*nd* edit. Enlarged. Illus. Cr. 8*vo.* Pp. 514. 12*s. 6d.* (Griffin.)

Klein, E. *Micro-organisms and Disease. Introduction to Study of Specific Micro-organisms.* New edit. Revised. 201 illustrations. Cr. 8*vo.* Pp. 608. 10*s. 6d.* (Macmillan.)

MacLagan, T. J. *Rheumatism: Nature, Pathology, Treatment.* 2*nd* edit. 8*vo.* Pp. 338. 10*s. 6d.* (Black.)

Pannetier, A. *Hygiène du Pharmacien.* 8*vo.* Paper covers. Pp. 267. (J. B. Baillière & Fils, Paris.)

Ramsay, Professor W., F.R.S. *The Position of Argon and Helium among the Elements: being the fifth Robert Boyle Lecture delivered before the Oxford University Junior Scientific Club, on June 2, 1896.* Paper covers. 8*vo.* Pp. 22. 1*s. net.* (Henry Frowde.)

Sanford, P. G. *Nitro-explosives: Properties, Manufacture, and Analysis of Smokeless Powders, Celluloid, Fulminates, and other Nitrated Substances.* Cr. 8*vo.* Pp. 282. 9*s.* (Lockwood.)

Starr, L. *Diets for Infants and Children in Health and Disease.* 12*mo.* Roan. 6*s. net.* (Kimpton.)

Starr, L. *Hygiene of the Nursery, including General Regimen and Feeding of Infants, &c.* 5*th* edit. Cr. 8*vo.* Pp. 234. 3*s. 6d.* (H. K. Lewis.)

Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., July 9.

WE have to report another quiet week in the drug and chemical markets. The general complaints of slackness of trade in the produce department are borne out to some extent by the striking circumstance that, whereas our imports and our exports of British and Irish produce show a constant increase, the re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise are falling month by month. The Board of Trade returns, published yesterday, for instance, show an increase in our imports in June, 1896, over June, 1895, of nearly 4½ per cent.—from 33,894,584/- to 35,229,255/-—and the total increase for the half-year is over 6½ per cent. Our exports of British goods in June, 1896, reached a value of 20,530,053/-; in June, 1895, they amounted to 17,800,100/-, an increase of about 16 per cent.; while the total increase for the half-year is about 12 per cent. On the other hand, the re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise in June, 1895, amounted to 5,265,773/-; in June, 1896, to only 4,668,876/-; while for the half-year figures are respectively 30,231,354/- and 29,938,789/- Coming to details, we find that the heavy-chemical trade is fairly brisk; but there are few alterations in value. In fine chemicals there is nothing of any importance to report. Some small business has been done in quinine. Glycerine is extremely firm. Cream of tartar slightly easier. Permanganate of potash scarce. Carbolic acid is tending lower, and so is cyanide of potassium. To-day's drug-auctions were small, and very little animation was shown. The total number of lots offered was 1,148, and of these only 243 were disposed of at auction, although a fairly large proportion was also sold privately during or immediately after the sales. Cape and Curaçao aloes remain steady; Zanzibar are not quite so firm. Buchu-leaves quite neglected; balsams of tolu and copaiba are held for higher prices; Peru balsam is slightly easier. Siam and Sumatra benzoin quite neglected. Cascarilla continues to sell well. Cardamoms were scarcely maintained in price. Crude camphor is very dull. Cinchona sold with good competition at full prices. Cubebs lower for common qualities. Coca-leaves in plentiful supply and dull of sale. Calumba and colocynth quiet, but firmly held. Cuttle-fish and fine cassia fistula sold cheaply. Dragon's-blood dearer for good qualities. Elemi neglected. Ergot of rye without charge. Gamboge a trifle firmer. Glycerine extremely firm. Gum acacia neglected. Californian honey is tending firmer, and for fine New Zealand good prices were obtained. Brazilian ipecacuanha about 2d. dearer. Damaged jalap sold cheaply. Insect-flowers advancing in Trieste. Kola-nuts neglected. Kino without demand. Musk sold rather more firmly at auction. Myrrh remains cheap. Castor oil firm at the recent increase in price. Star-anise oil firmly held on the spot. Oil of limes continues to advance. Opium has also an advancing tendency. American peppermint oil slightly firmer. Citronella oil easier. Rhubarb is held at fairly steady rates. Quassia slightly easier. Tinnnevelly and Alexandrian senna very firmly held. Sarsaparilla scarce for good qualities. Star-anise much lower. Senega neglected. Tonca-beans and tamarinds easier. Jamaica beeswax firmer. Shellac has declined this week, and spices are extremely quiet, with the exception of pimento and Jamaican ginger, which are both dearer. Japan and Cochin ginger easier. Cloves flat, and chillies and capsicums lower. The Bank-rate remains at 2 per cent., and bar-silver has advanced to 31½d. per oz.

Mr. Samuel Figgis, who has been on a trip round the world, returned to Mincing Lane this week, and appeared in the rostrum at the drug-auctions looking much Back to improved in health. He has been away over Business. six months, and travelled 40,000 miles, visiting, we believe, the principal foreign produce-trade centres on his route.

Our Smyrna correspondent telegraphs on Thursday afternoon that American agents and speculators have appeared as buyers in the market. There are now very few Opium sellers, and the general quotation for fair Manufacturing is from 8s. 8d. to 9s. per lb. Hot southern winds have greatly injured the growing crop, and an advance is expected. We have also received a telegram from our Constantinople correspondent, dated 9th inst., in which he says:—"Opium extremely firm at 8s. 5d., f.o.b., for fair manufacturing quality."

It is announced that the Runcorn works of the United Alkali Company, locally known as "Johnson's Soapery," were closed at the end of June with the exception of Alkali-works the plant used for the production of soda Closed. crystals, which, however, only employs about ten hands. The large existing plant for the manufacture of ammonia soda ash will, it is said, be transferred to another works of the company. At the time when the United Alkali Company was started, the Runcorn factory employed about six hundred hands.

ACID (TARTARIC) is firmly held at from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb., according to brand and position. At to-day's auctions 3 packages of *Cape argol* sold at from 57s. to 60s. for good bold grey crystals, and at 49s. for dark reddish.

ALOES.—*Cape aloes* is in small supply. An arrival of 101 boxes was received recently, but only 35 of these were offered at to-day's auctions. These were all sold at very firm prices, good bright hard realising 25s.; fair to good from 23s. to 24s. 6d.; and ordinary dull 20s. to 22s. per cwt. Five cases *Zanzibar aloes*, out of 38 offered, sold at 60s. per cwt. for good bright brown; and 55s., subject, for similar quality. Of *Curaçao aloes*, 209 boxes were offered, of which 138 realised from 31s. to 35s. for fair brown livery; and from 12s. to 16s. for rather ordinary capey.

ASAFETIDA.—It is reported that there have been more inquiries privately, but no business has been done. At auction 12 cases were bought in at the nominal price of 65s. per cwt.

BALSAMS—*Copaiba* of good quality is extremely scarce, *Maranham* being worth 2s. 1d. or 2s. 2d. per lb., while *Maracaibo* offers at 1s. 10d. per lb. *Peru balsam* is easier, and prices are more or less nominal, 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per lb. being probably the nearest quotation. At auction 5 cases balsam *Tolu* were bought in at 2s. 6d. per lb.; privately holders are extremely firm, and it is said that one of them has refused 2s. 6d. per lb. for fine genuine quality.

BENZOIN is extremely flat. About 14 packages *Siam* were shown, but only 1 sold, at 9s. 12s. 6d. for good bright coloured and small almonds, partly blocky; fine pale detached almonds were bought in at 35s. per cwt. Of 221 packages *Sumatra* 4 only sold, at rather low rates—viz., 6s. 12s. 6d. for fair seconds, almondy centres, but very false packed. Nine packages *Palembang* gum, fair almondy, sold cheaply, at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

BUCHU.—Very neglected, at low prices. Of 78 packages offered to-day, 17 found buyers, at 2½d. per lb. for fair round, partly yellowish, and from 1½d. to 1¾d. for very stalky and yellow leaves. Some holders require 3d. per lb. for good quality.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE)—The market has been dull this week, and no business is reported. *Formosa* camphor, early steamer shipment, offers at 77s. 6d. to 80s. per cwt., c.i.f., while for *Japanese* the disproportionate quotation of 122s 6d., c.i.f., is made.

CARDAMOMS, although in small supply at to-day's auctions, were by no means firm. No actual change in the quotations can be given, but there was no sign of the increased firmness which seems to be anticipated privately. Of 31 packages 13 sold, at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. per lb. for medium pale *Mysore*, 2s. 1d. for small ditto, 1s. 8d. for medium split grey and small palish. A parcel of medium round *Malabar* fruit was bought in at 2s. 5d. per lb. For pale seed 2s. 9d. per lb. was accepted.

CASCARILLA.—Slightly easier. At to-day's auctions 19 out of 26 packages sold at from 40s. 6d. to 45s. 6d. for fair to good bright small silvery broken quill. Siftings were bought in at 30s. per cwt.

CASSIA FISTULA is lower. Thirty-six packages good bold clean sound *West Indian* only realised 16s. per cwt., while 18 packages of dull lean wormy *Bombay* were bought in.

CINCHONA.—At the monthly cinchona-auctions on Tuesday seven catalogues were offered, the total quantity represented in them being 1,442 packages, divided as follows:—

	Packages	Packages
East Indian cinchona	670	of which 613 were sold
Ceylon cinchona	444	" 378 "
African cinchona	209	" 209 "
South American cinchona	119	" — "
	1,442	" 1,200 "

The following figures represent the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Agents for the American factory	79,380
Agents for the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories	63,345
Agents for the Auerbach factory	49,290
Messrs. Howards & Sons	27,552
Agents for the Imperial Quinine factory	15,522
Agents for the Brunswick factory	11,920
Agents for the Paris factory	4,150
Agents for the Frankfort-on-Main factory	3,870
Various buyers	33,791
Total quantity sold	288,820
Bought in or withdrawn	50,185
Total quantity of bark offered	339,005

The market was rather animated, and a very brisk tone with good competition was manifested throughout the sale. *West African* bark especially realised full rates, this variety being competed for more than is usually the case by manufacturers. The average unit for *Manufacturing* bark may be placed at nearly 5d. per lb., showing a slight improvement on the last pieced auctions. The following prices were paid:—*Ceylon* and *East Indian* bark: natural *Succirubra*, common to good chips and shavings, 1½d. to 2½d.; root realised 1½d. per lb. *Officinalis*: fair to fine chips and shavings, 1½d. to 3d.; root, 2½d. Seventy cases *Indian Druggists' Quill* sold, with excellent competition, at from 5d. to 8½d. per lb., according to quality. *Ledger* chips, 1½d. to 3½d.; renewed *Succirubra*, 2d. to 2½d.; ditto *Officinalis*, 1½d. to 3½d.; ditto *Ledger*, 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. *West African* red bark realised from 2½d. to 2½d. per lb., old soft *Colombian* only bringing a bid of 1½d. per lb., while 2d. would be the lowest acceptable price. At auction to-day several lots of *South American* bark were offered. Of these, one of 5 packages broken to sound *Paita* quill sold at 2½d. per lb. Of 44 bags *Loxa*, 18 sold at from 8d. per lb. for sound fresh partly broken quill to 5½d. to 6d. for damaged ditto, and 2d. per lb. for very ordinary broken coarse.

CIVET.—Fine grades remain scarce, but ordinary kinds are fairly plentiful. At auction 6 horns were offered, of which 5, of pale colour and poor aroma, are held for 27s. 6d. per oz.

COCHINEAL.—Good qualities are scarce, and it is thought that they are not unlikely to advance in price further. Best black *Teneriffe* for export is quoted at 1s. 4d. per lb.; silver, which is very scarce, is reported held for 1s. 6d.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—A trifle easier. Best *French* crystals may be had to-day at 97s. per cwt., while for powder from 99s. to 100s. would be accepted. At auction 6 casks of *Spanish* cream of tartar, quality not stated, but of fair colour, were bought in at 100s. per cwt.

CUBEBS.—Quite neglected and easier. A parcel of fair quality was cleared some time ago at 32s. 6d. per cwt., and since then importers have been asking from 37s. 6d. to 40s. for fine sifted *Singapore*. At that price, however, they have found it impossible to make progress. At to-day's auctions 31 packages fair brown berries, not stalky, from *Bombay*, were bought in at 35s., a bid of 32s. being refused. Another lot of 65 bags very small and dusty ordinary berries from *Singapore* sold, without reserve, at from 19s. 6d., rising to 22s. for sound, and 20s. 6d. for damaged quality.

CUTTLE-FISH.—A parcel of fair pale, slightly discoloured, mixed medium to bold quality sold cheaply at from 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. Another lot of 50 bags broken cuttle-fish bone from *Penang* was bought in.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD is in demand at an advance of about 20s. per lb. for fine qualities, while lower grades went at cheap rates. Of 11 packages 6 sold, mostly without reserve —fiery bright lump at 10s., pale red brick at 100s., and dark damp saucer at 95s. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—Within the last few days several inquiries have been received here for *Spanish* ergot on account of American firms. At auction 55 bags were bought in, 8d. being the limit for wormy quality. A parcel of 30 packages of new *Spanish* ergot was included in the catalogues, but samples were not up in time for sale.

EXTRACTS.—The new English extracts are now coming on to the market. *Belladonna* shows no change upon last year's price, about 3s. per lb. being the quotation. *Hyoscyamus* has been reduced about 2s. per lb., the current quotation being about 5s. 6d. per lb. *Conium* is not yet offering.

GAMBOGE is a trifle firmer, to-day's sales marking an advance of about 2s. 6d. per lb. Of 14 packages offered 6 sold, at 8s. 7s. 6d. per cwt. for damp, partly broken, and black pipe of fair orange fracture.

GLYCERINE continues in extremely good demand at the high rates quoted last week. The manufacturers' quotations range from 70s. to 73s. per cwt., but in secondhand those figures can still be shaded somewhat.

GUM ACACIA.—Quite neglected. Several holders are anxious to sell, but they cannot find any buyers at the prices asked. Nominally the quotations for sorts still range from 65s. for hard amber to 95s. for fine soft sorts. So-called insoluble *Persian* gum is also neglected. At auction to-day a considerable quantity of gum acacia, both picked and in sorts, was bought in at nominal prices: *Sorts* at 75s. to 100s., *Picked grain* at 7s. 5s. to 7s. 10s., medium *Drop* 10s. 10s. per cwt. A parcel of 15 bags picked *Senegal* gum was bought in at 65s. per cwt.

HONEY.—The only parcel of honey at to-day's auctions which attracted attention was one of 131 cases fine yellow candied *New Zealand*, of which 71 sold at 41s. to 41s. 6d. per cwt. Thirty-six packages *Jamaican* honey were bought in at 35s. per cwt. with the exception of 2, of thin brown appearance, for which 22s. per cwt. was paid.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—The market in Trieste is subject to strong speculative influences, and prices are fluctuating, mostly in the direction of an advance, from day to day. At auction a bale of badly-damaged open flowers sold without reserve at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

IPÉCACUANHA.—Thirty-five packages *Brazilian* ipecacuanha were offered to-day. Twelve of these sold readily at an advance of about 2d. per lb., fair annulated sound at 5s. 5d., first and second class damaged at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. The remainder was mostly withdrawn, holders being extremely firm. Two bales damaged plump *Colombian* root sold at 4s. 3d. per lb. Seventy-three 60-lb. bales of *Bahia* root were withdrawn.

JALAP.—Lower. At auction to-day 68 packages were offered, of which 38 sold without reserve, mostly for account of the underwriters (the lots being badly damaged), at from 4½d. to 6d. per lb. for mouldy, 2½d. per lb. for partly rotten, and 6½d. per lb. (subject to approval) for medium to bold good pale. A parcel of good bright *Vera Cruz* was bought in at 7d. per lb. Fair *Vera Cruz* offers to arrive at from 5½d. to 6d. per lb. c.i.f. terms.

MENTHOL.—On the spot 10s. per lb. is nominally asked for fair brands. For delivery a fairly good business is re-

ported this week at 8s. 9d. to 8s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, June-July shipment.

MUSK has been in slightly better demand lately, and at auction to-day a fair inquiry was also manifested, steady rates being paid. Of first pile *Tonquin* pods 15 packages were offered, of which 2 sold at 74s. for good fairly dry small to bold well-trimmed blue and brown skins. For a fine bold parcel of blue seconds pods 74s. 6d. per oz. was refused, 75s. being the lowest price. Well-trimmed grey second pods, partly damp, were bought in at 65s. to 67s. 6d. per oz.; good blue skins, well-trimmed but partly spurious third pile pods, were bought in at 60s., and *Nepaul* grain musk at 50s. per oz.; while trimmings sold at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz.

MYRRH remains very cheap. Of 30 packages offered to-day, only 4 sold, at 67s. per cwt. for fair native picked, and at 45s. for dusty to good bright siftings.

OIL (CASTOR).—At auction to-day 3d. per lb. was asked for 100 cases fair quality seconds. From France firm prices are quoted, 24l. per ton f.o.b. Marseilles being asked for medicinal oil in barrels, and 20l. per ton, f.o.b., for first pressings.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—American Oil of peppermint is reported somewhat dearer. Some of the importers ask 9s. 6d. per lb., while second-hand holders have refused bids at 3s. 9d. per lb., though they would probably still accept 9s. per lb. Lemongrass oil quiet, at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz. on the spot, and 1 $\frac{15}{16}$ d. per oz., c.i.f. At auction 27 cases Cochin oil were bought in at 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. per oz. Citronella is tending easier still: on the spot the quotation is 1s. 6d. per lb. in drums, and 1s. 4d. per lb. in tins; for arrival it is 1s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f., in drums. Oil of limes has been strongly inquired for, and prices have been advancing rapidly. Hand-pressed oil is now quoted at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d.; distilled, at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 9d. per lb. The consumption of this oil seems increasing very rapidly. Cassia oil offers at 5s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., for 70-75 per cent. oil, July-September shipment, without eliciting response. On the spot good qualities are firm at 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per lb. for 70-75 per cent. oil. Ordinary grades, however, are difficult to move, even at low prices, compared with the better qualities. At auction to-day several parcels were offered and bought in: 82 per cent., at 8s. 3d. per lb.; 37 per cent., at 9s. per lb. (a bid of 8s. 6d. per lb. was suggested for this last parcel). The last business done in Star-anise oil was at the rate of 7s. 3d. per lb. on the spot, but there is now little to be had below 7s. 6d. per lb. For shipment the price asked is 6s. c.i.f., October-December. Business is reported at 6s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f., for July-August, and further offers have been telegraphed out to China at 6s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f., without being accepted. A case of two 56-lb. tins *Eucalyptus* oil from Adelaide was sold, subject to approval, at 1s. 2d. per lb., and a parcel of 20 cases pale Japanese Camphor oil was bought in at 47s. 6d. per cwt. Oil of caraway has been reduced in price to 6s. per lb. by the English manufacturers.

OPIUM.—A further fair business has been done this week in Persian opium, at the same, and occasionally at slightly better, prices. The market generally is very firm, and holders are inclined to ask higher rates, chiefly on account of the alarming crop-prospects. The quotations are: Persian—11s. 6d. to 12s. per lb. for good, and 10s. to 11s. per lb. for ordinary grades (the latter being those in which the bulk of the business has been done); Druggists' opium, of fair quality, 9s. to 9s. 6d. per lb.

POPPY-HEADS.—The English crop of poppies will be poor this season, and prices are likely to rule high. Belgian poppy-heads of the 1895 crop, for prompt delivery, may be had at 10s. 6d. per 1,000, while new Belgian poppy-heads, to arrive about the end of August, offer at 12s. 6d. to 13s. per 1,000.

QUASSIA is somewhat easier. Twenty-five tons logs sold to-day at 5l. per ton. Other parcels were bought in at from 4l. 10s. to 7l. per ton.

QUININE has been in slightly improved demand, although prices remain very low. A few thousand ounces of second-hand German bulk B & S or HB have changed hands this week at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz. The manufacturers' quotations remain unchanged.

RHUBARB.—Seventy-six packages were offered to-day, of which 9 sold at very steady prices—flat bold Canton, pale

coat and fair fracture, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb.; round *Shensi* at 1s. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—There does not appear to be any genuine Grey Jamaican sarsaparilla on the market. All varieties are extremely firm, and at to-day's auction very high prices were paid—1s. 4d. per lb. for pale Native Jamaica. For another lot of bright red 1s. 5d. per lb. is asked, a bid of 1s. 2d. per lb. being refused. Honduras root was fairly well represented, but very firmly held; a bid of 1s. 1d. per lb. was refused for rather ordinary quality, 1s. 2d. per lb. being the price.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—The supply in London is very small, and holders still ask 60s. per cwt., but the demand is slight. In Liverpool, we understand, about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons have lately been sold at 35s. per cwt. For second quality Turkish Scammony 26s. per lb. has been accepted. First would be difficult to sell at 30s. per lb.

SEEDS (VARIOUS).—Twenty-nine packages fair *Fennel*-seed from Bombay sold at from 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. per cwt. A considerable quantity of *Annatto*-seed was bought in, 4d. being the limit for good quality. For 2 bags fair *Kombé strophanthus* 3s. 3d. per lb. was refused, 3s. 6d. being the price. Russian aniseed sold at low prices—20s. per cwt. for fair quality. Twenty cases genuine Star-anise sold at a considerable reduction, 65s. being accepted for them. A parcel of spurious Japanese seed was bought in. Fifty bags *Morocco coriander* sold cheaply without reserve at 8s. per cwt., and 3 bags white and dark *Sesame* seed realised 8s. per cwt.

SENNA.—At auction a parcel of 55 packages Alexandrian senna was bought in, small leaves at from 7d. to 12d. *Tinnevelly* senna is very firmly held, with a higher tendency. At auction to-day 244 packages of second-hand supplies were offered—69 sold at 3d. to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for fair medium to good bright green; 2d. to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for medium to bold, partly specky and yellowish; and from 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. down to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for ordinary small and dull.

SHELLAC.—Easier, both on the spot and for delivery. At auction 380 cases, out of 950 offered, sold at a decline of from 3s. to 5s. on *Orange* lac; fine to blocky realised 94s.; fair bright free seconds, 83s. to 89s.; flat reddish ditto, 85s. to 87s.; cakey and blocky, from 82s. to 88s. per cwt. *Garnet* lac is neglected at 84s. per cwt. for good AC on the spot; while good first *Button* lac is quoted at 95s. per cwt.

SPICES.—The market remains extremely flat, with the exception of *Pimento*, which sells steadily at rather higher rates. At auction from 2d. to 2 $\frac{3}{16}$ d. was paid for about 520 bags ordinary to fair quality. Limed Japanese ginger sold at a considerable decline, good realising 17s.; mondy from 14s. 3d. to 15s. per cwt. *Jamaica* ginger in demand at an advance of about 3s.; low to good common *Rhatoon*, 67s. to 72s.; ordinary medium to fine bold washed, 75s. to 98s. per cwt.; for scraped *St. Lucia* ginger 75s. to 78s. was paid. *Cochin* ginger flat and in small demand. Fair small and medium washed rough, 30s. 6d. to 33s. per cwt. Fair A cut, 68s. 6d. per cwt. *Zanzibar* cloves offer for Angust delivery at 2d. per lb. *Chillies* and *Capsicums* tending lower.

VARIOUS DRUGS.—*Gum ammoniacum*:—Two cases good clean yellow drop and grain were bought in at 55s. per cwt. A parcel of 19 bales *Gentian* root from Bordeaux was bought in at 19s. per cwt. *Galbanum* neglected, small yellow almonds, partly soft and mixed with wood and earth were bought in at 1s. 10d.; ordinary to low at from 1s. down to 9d. per lb. Crude Japanese antimony offered at 19l. 10s. per ton. *Chinese cantharides* quite neglected. A parcel was bought in at 1s. 1d. per lb. to-day. 100 bags *Cocculus indicus* were bought in at 8s. 6d. per cwt. Of *Coca-leaves*, a large supply of 159 bales recently arrived was shown. Good *Huanoco* were bought in at 1s. 1d. per lb.; for good *Truxillo* character at from 7d. to 1s. per lb. Four bags badly damaged *Colchicum* root sold at 8s. per cwt. for account of the underwriters. *Calumba* is firm, but no demand was shown to-day. Good yellow washed root was bought in at 45s.; fair washed root was bought in at 45s., fair washed chips at 17s., and dark sorts at 15s. per cwt. The holders of *Turkish* colocynth continue to ask very high prices. Good pale apple was bought in to-day at from 2s. 8d. to 3s. per lb. Spanish according to quality from 7d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. Three bales of presumably spurious *Coto* bark sold without reserve at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Kamala*

dull of sale. Two packages sold to-day at 8d. per lb. for fair quality, but the bulk was bought in. *Kino* is difficult to sell; a case of dark astringent gum from Bombay was bought in to-day at 12s. per lb., and 5 cases bright ruby and woody gum were withdrawn. Three cases fine bold bright *Guaiacum* were bought in at the high rate of 3s. 3d. per lb. There was no response to the suggestion of 2s. 6d. per lb. A recent arrival of 73 packages damp, dark and woody *Goa powder* was bought in without mention of price. Five bags fair pale *Florentine orris* were bought in at 7s. per cwt., and 43 bales fair *East Indian* at 1s. per cwt. Four bags slightly mouldy *Cape Quince seed* were bought in at 1s. 5d. per lb. One bag of *Stavesacre seed* is held for 8s. per cwt. Fifteen casks *Chinese Soy* sold at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon. *Mastic* remains quite neglected, a fair quantity being bought to-day at from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d., according to colour. Eighty-two packages fair grey, silky *Nux vomica* were bought in at 9s. per cwt. Six packages fair *Squill* sold without reserve at 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.; good quality was bought in at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4d. per lb.

WAX (BEES')—*Jamaican wax* was the only variety in demand, and it sold at an advance of about 2s. 6d., 50 bags being disposed of at from 8l. to 8l. 7s. 6d. for fair to good yellow. Considerable quantities of *Madagascar* were bought in at from 6l. 10s. to 7l. 2s. 6d., white bleached *East Indian* at 8l., and greasy *Aden* at 100s.; ditto *Rangoon* at 6l. per cwt. A few packages of fair *Zanzibar wax* sold at 6l. 5s. to 6l. 7s. 6d., and a parcel of 27 packages good yellow *Brazilian* was bought in at 7l. 10s.

Heavy Chemicals.

More business has been transacted in the heavy chemical market during the past week. Consumers, who mostly let their stocks run low up to the end of June on account of stocktaking, have had to come into the market again, and this, to a great extent, accounts for the larger volume of business passing. On the Clyde matters are fairly brisk, but reports from the Tyne are very poor, exports especially being very low for the time of the year. The Board of Trade returns for June show that the exports of alkali are still decreasing, especially to the States and Russia. The total exported last month was 368,448 cwt., against 430,155 cwt. in June 1895, or 14.3 per cent. less, and 409,703 cwt. in June, 1894, or 10.1 per cent. less. The prices of miscellaneous products remain generally unaltered from the list published in our last issue. *Bleaching-powder* is still rather quiet. *Caustic soda* is firm. *Soda ash*, *Soda crystals*, and *Ammonia alkali* are steady at late rates. A better demand is being experienced for *Saltcake*, and also for *Alum*, and best makes of *Sulphate of alumina*. Prices of *Barium compounds* continue very firm. *Mineral carbonate*, of highest purity, is rather scarce, whilst the continued demand for the other products keeps stocks very low. *Recovered sulphur* remains firm and scarce. *Sulphate of ammonia* steady, with rather better demand for prompt, whilst in forward very little is being done. Quotations, Beckton, Hull, and Liverpool, remain at 8l., whilst Leith has declined slightly, and now stands 7l. 18s. 9d. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 403 tons. *Benzols* are again dearer, 90's prompt, 2s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; July-December, 2s. 10d.; 50-90's prompt, 2s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; forward, 2s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. *Pitch* firm. *Aniline oil* and *salt* unchanged. *Chlorates of potash* and *soda* easier, and the latter is now quoted 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. *Silicate of soda* upward tendency. *Yellow Prussiate of potash* in good demand. *Arsenic* and *Acetates of lime* firm. *Sulphocyanides* moving better.

The Liverpool Drug-market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on July 8, says that there has been more inquiry for *Acacia gums* during the week, but only a retail business has resulted so far—holders being very firm in their views and showing a tendency to keep stocks off the market. Good hard *Soudan* sorts are selling at prices ranging from 85s. to 90s. per cwt., better grades being 100s. to 120s. In view of the bad reports from California all the better qualities of *Honey* are being inquired for, and desirable parcels are finding buyers at improved prices—Californian 23s. to 42s. per cwt. according to quality. The market has been cleared of *Kola-nuts* at 3d. per lb. for dry sound, and one parcel rather old fresh 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Castor oil* continues to move off at the advance; *Calcutta* good seconds have advanced to 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; first pressure French, 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ d. to

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; second pressure French, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Belgian first pressure, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ d.; and Madras good seconds, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. with every prospect of still better prices in the near future. Very large sales—several thousands of bags—have been made in *Canary seed* at 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d., and the movement continues. *African Ginger* is moving slowly at 22s. 6d. per cwt. for old crop and 19s. for new. *Chillies (W. African)* meet with slight inquiry, and sales have been effected at 32s. 6d. to 35s. for good bright. *Beeswax* continues to arrive, and the tendency is in buyers' favour.

The Amsterdam Market.

Our Amsterdam correspondent informs us that the *Java cinchona bark* to be offered by public auction on July 16 consists of 5,216 bales and 200 cases, together about 489,518 kilos, representing 24,210 kilos. of sulphate of quinine of an average contents of 5.03 per cent. for the manufacturing bark. The *Druggists*' bark to be offered consists of 23,391 kilos.

The Hamburg Drug-market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on July 7:—Business is very quiet here, and there is very little doing in the drug-trade at present. *Carbolic acid* is quiet; *Citric* unchanged, best English at 253m. per 100 kilos. *Antimony* remains unchanged, at 35m. per 100 kilos, for crude. *Balsam (Peru)* is easier, and can be bought at 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to 16m. per kilo. *Balsam copaiba* steady, best pure quality quoted 3.20m. to 3.50m. per kilo. *Camphor (refined)* is very firmly held here; spot is very scarce, and held at 280m. per 100 kilos. *Chlorate of potash* is unchanged at 82m. to 83m. per 100 kilos. *Ergot of rye* is dull and neglected, prime Russian 82m. to 85m. per 100 kilos. *Gum acacia* shows still very little business. *Glycerine* is very firm with a good demand. *Honey* remains quiet; *Chilian* average quality quoted about 39m. per 100 kilos. *Menthol* is steady at 22m. per kilo. *Castor oil* is firm; first-pressing in barrels demand 42m. to 43m. per 100 kilos. *Linseed oil* is very dull; London oil in barrels, 38.25m. per 100 kilos.; pale German linseed oil in barrels (duty-free) for September-December and January-June, 41m. per 100 kilos. Refined *Cotton oil* is dull and neglected at 32m. per 100 kilos. in barrels. *Oils (essential): Star-anise oil* is quiet at 17m. per kilo. *Peppermint oil* quiet; HGH 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per lb., Todd easier at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per lb. *Japanese oil* flat at 8m. to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per kilo. *Citronella oil* is unchanged; spot 3.10m. to 3.20m., forward 2.90m. to 2.95m. per kilo. *Cajuput oil (green)*, 4m. to 4.10m. per bottle. *Cod-liver oil* is steady; non-congealing is quoted 165m. to 170m. per barrel. *White sweet seal oil* is firm; prices vary from 47m. to 49m. per 100 kilos. in iron-bound casks. *Spermaceti* firm at 305m. to 310m. per 100 kilos. *Quinine* is neglected, at 39m. to 40m. per kilo. *Japan wax* is firm at 62m. per 100 kilos. *Carnauba wax* flat; grey 175m. per 100 kilos, medium 185m. to 200m., fine yellow 210m. to 230m. per 100 kilos.

THE LEICESTER BACTERIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE—In our report of the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Leicester last week we omitted to mention the unusual but very interesting exhibit made by the Leicester Bacteriological Institute. This brought before agriculturists and dairy farmers facts and information of service with regard to diseases common to animals and man, which proved an interesting and instructive feature at the show. The fact that this was the first occasion on which any such exhibit had appeared in the country drew large numbers of medical men, veterinary surgeons, farmers, members of County Councils, and others desirous of obtaining information on the subject. Enlarged photographs illustrating the different bacilli found in tubercle, typhoid fever, anthrax, swine fever, rabies, croup, glanders, tetanus, &c., were arranged upon the stall, and slides were shown under several microscopes provided for the purpose. Pamphlets giving information concerning the various diseases, and statistics of the results of the latest experiments, were also distributed. Antitoxin serums, prepared in the laboratory of the Institute, were exhibited. Demonstrations were given at intervals by the Director (Dr. J. Andrew Turner), when the mode of propagation and the infective properties of the disease were explained. The properties of tuberculin and mallein were also described, and pamphlets of explanation given to those asking for them.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.

Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.

The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications, with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.

The Admission of British Specialities into France.

SIR.—We have read with interest the letter from Mr. Nicholls, of Nice, and in order that the French chemists may not conclude therefrom that there is now any difficulty caused by the Douane in France regarding any of our preparations, we have pleasure in saying that Caffyn's Liquor Carnis and Malto Carnis were officially admitted into France in 1892, and since the parcel referred to by Mr. Nicholls was sent we have received a letter from the Ministry of Commerce, from which you will see that "Virol" and "Marrol" are admitted into France at favorable rates.

Yours faithfully,

July 3.

THE LIQUOR CARNIS COMPANY.

Carter's Little Liver-pilis.

SIR.—*A propos* of the announcement in the *C. & D.* relating to the advance in the price of Carter's little liver-pills, an account of a little episode which took place here a day or two ago may interest some of your readers.

On Wednesday last a respectably-attired stranger entered my shop and inquired the price of Carter's pills. Could I do them at 9s. 6d. per dozen in quantities, say, of a gross? The implication was they were to take abroad. He gave his name and address—the latter in a street near by—and I agreed to supply him with two gross at the price named. He would call for same on the following day, and took with him as many bottles as I could spare from stock. The next day I, of course, heard of the advance, and wrote acquainting my customer with the same.

By some curious accident my messenger learned that my would-be client was engaged at Messrs. Boots, the "cash chemists" in this city.

The same evening our friend paid another visit, and I had great pleasure in telling him of my discovery and of my admiration for the business methods pursued on behalf of so important a firm as Messrs. Boots. He did not attempt to deny his connection with the latter, and I have since made it my business to absolutely establish his identity.

Yours respectfully,

Liverpool, July 6.

WILLIAM H. CLUBB.

[We have communicated with Messrs. Boots, of Nottingham, in regard to this trick, and think it right to state that they repudiate all knowledge of or authorisation of it.—ED. *C. & D.*]

SIR.—I observe Carter's little liver-pills are now to be charged 11s. 6d. per dozen net, or 10s. 6d. taking five gross and upwards.

In general, country chemists in Scotland sell these pills at 1s. retail, and cannot buy five gross and upwards. I leave chemists to picture the situation if they begin to ask more than 1s. from customers who have been in the habit of paying that sum. For my part I shall not attempt such. We are thus to have $\frac{1}{2}$ d. profit on each packet sold. Keep open shop, stock the pills, wrap and seal them, and give time and labour all for $\frac{1}{2}$ d. profit on each. How very encouraging!

There are other "patents" on the market which may be ranked with the above as to profit. I wonder how many thousands of sales of these are lost to the makers because

they will go on expecting chemists to stock and push the sale, while the game for the chemists is not worth the candle.

Yours truly,

Fraserburgh, July 6.

J. A. ROBERTSON.

Children's Doses.

SIR.—Some months ago you noticed favourably the Pharmacopœia of the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children. I got a copy and, looking at it, tossed it aside. I have just come on it again, and think it right to call attention to what seems a serious mistake. The preface says the dose is regulated for a child six months' old. *Vide* page 14, 2½ m. sol. arsen., 1m. ac. hydrocyan.; page 29, pills, digitalis $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., blue pill 1 gr.; page 31, jalap 4 gr., calomel 2 gr. An error somewhere—in the age, I suppose. In a future edition the editors might follow the example of the Edinburgh Infirmary, and state the cases in which prescriptions are used.

Yours,

DELTA. (110/13.)

Chlorodyne in Egypt.

SIR.—I see that Mr. Ruelberg calls into question the accuracy of the information which I gave you relative to chlorodyne in Egypt. I may say that I obtained this information from the largest wholesale druggist in Egypt, and one of the remarks which this gentleman made to me was to the effect that "he could immediately dispose of grosses of chlorodyne if he only had same, and that the small bottles had already been disposed of at 3s. 6d. each."

Yours faithfully,

11 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

R. R. MARTIN.

July 3.

Risks of Headache powders.

SIR.—Referring to the inquest on a girl who died after taking one of the popular headache-powders, I may mention that I had a customer recently who asked for a headache-powder, and on asking her if she had taken anything she admitted having already taken during the day five of these powders.

Surely the directions on the powders should warn the public against such a repetition of dose.

I think it is time the public were warned about these so-called harmless cures.

Yours faithfully,

CHEMIST. (209/24.)

Essence of Lemon.

SIR.—I have always given a 1-in-4 solution of oil in alcohol. I really think that this has a clearer and sharper flavour than the oil itself, and on telling a chemist in a large way in Yorkshire, who had been selling the oil, he at once tried the above, and has found it pleases customers even better.

Yours truly.

Fraserburgh, July 4.

J. A. ROBERTSON.

DISPENSING NOTES.

Correspondents should consult "The Art of Dispensing" in regard to dispensing difficulties. Difficulties not explained therein may be sent to the Editor, who invites a general expression of opinion upon the undermentioned topics.

What is Ung. Plumbi Diacet.?

SIR.—Will you kindly inform me what should be used by a dispenser when ung. plumbi diacet. (or subacet.) is ordered in a prescription by a physician? I know some who would use ung. plumbi acet. Is this correct? or should ung. plumbi glycerin. subacet. be used?—which I think is correct.

Yours truly,

PATRICK. (117/52.)

[It would be interesting to hear how those who give ung. plumbi acet. justify their action.]

A Strong Morning Draught.

SIR.—The prescription given under the above heading in last week's issue is one very frequently prescribed in France, generally under the name of "Limonade purgatif," of various strengths. It is best prepared by warming the magn. carb. and water together, and then adding the acid little by little until a clear solution is obtained, filtering, and adding the syrup last and water q.s. In this way there is no difficulty about the filtering, and the product is a bright pale-straw colour. The dose of the prescription is an ordinary one.

Bowdon.

Yours truly,
R. H. TOOTILL.

Three Hours' Practice.

The subjoined is an examination practice-paper, given recently at the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy to Minor students. We reproduce it for a larger circle to practise:—

Hab.: Emplast. menthol. 3 x 1.

Sig.: Genu applicand dolor urgente.

Ol. morrhæ	..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Ovi vitelli	..	..	..	..	..	j.
Ol. cinnamomi	..	..	..	..	gtt. v.	
Ol. caryophylli	..	..	..	..	gtt. v.	
Acid. phosphor dil.	..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Calcis. hypophosph.	..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Aqua destill. ad	..	..	..	..	..	3viii.

M. Ft. emuls.

Sig.: Capiat cochl. magn. duo tr quarterve iudies p. a.

Extract. hamamel.	..	..	..	..	gr. ij.
Acid. tannic	..	..	..	..	gr. iij.
Ol. theobrom.	..	..	..	..	q.s. ut ft. sup.

Mitte vj. positor.

Sig.: M.D.U.

Mitte emplast. cantharil. per aurem dextram.

Pulv. capsici	..	..	..	..	..	gr. ss.
Bismuth. carb.	..	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Sodii bicarbon.	..	..	..	..	..	gr. j.
Ext. nucis vom.	..	..	..	..	..	gr. ss.
Ext. gentian.	..	..	..	..	..	q.s.

M. Ft. pil. ij. Mitte xij. in argent.

Sig.: Oap. ij. ante cib. ter die.

Make 1 oz. ung. hydrarg. comp.

Make 3 oz. of a solution of chromic acid, containing 5 per cent. CrO₃. State the quantities used on the labels.

For the benefit of those who have been through the mill, and need no practice, we may explain that the first prescription makes a good cod-liver oil emulsion, the second is for a pile-suppository, and the third an indigestion-pill.

We shall be glad to receive from this month's Minor candidates statements of the practical work given to them in Edinburgh or London.

112/65. *Shemus*.—We cannot add to what is said in "The Art of Dispensing," pages 22 and 23, and which applies to your prescription.

LEGAL QUERIES.

Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty," and THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

228/8. *T. B.*—No one can call himself M.P.S. unless he is a member of the Pharmaceutical Society, and no one can become a member without passing the Major examination, unless he was registered as in business as a chemist and druggist before 1868.

116/34. *Guaiacæ*.—It is not illegal for an unqualified person to call his shop as any sort of "drug-stores," but it would be illegal to describe himself as a wholesale chemist and druggist.

231/14. *T. F. G.*.—It is not an apprenticeship which the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain demands for the Minor, but proof that the candidate has been engaged for three years dispensing medical prescriptions; where does not matter if the declaration is signed by a chemist or druggist or medical practitioner. The service may, of course, be with a limited company.

117/50. *Cyanide*.—We know of no law which would prevent you from describing your toilet-preparations with the prefix "Royal Court" or "Her Majesty's Court," though it is conceivable that such titles might be so employed as to become a false trade-description within the meaning of the Merchandise Marks Act. If you should use the Royal arms with them, you would be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20*l.* under section 106 of the Patents, Designs, and Trademarks Act.

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

N.B.—All queries should be accompanied by the business card of a subscriber, or the address label from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST wrapper. We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.

No SAMPLES will be analysed and reported upon unless the sender labels the sample with his name and the name of the article, and informs us (not necessarily for publication) by whom the article is made, for what purpose and how it is used, and any further particulars of interest.

Back numbers containing formulae, educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.

107/14. *Caledonia*.—Lime-juice and Glycerine for the Skin.—Perhaps this is what military men use for preventing sunburn and effects of wind and rain on face and hands when in camp:—

Glycerine of borax	..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Glycerine ..	..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Oil of limes ..	..	..	..	..	..	11x.
Rectified spirit ..	..	..	..	..	..	3iv.
Lime-juice ..	..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Rose-water ..	..	..	..	..	..	3iij.

Dissolve the oil in the spirit, add the glycerines and water, shake with a drachm of kaolin or fullers' earth, and filter. To the filtrate add the lime-juice and a few drops of caramel.

106/6. *Jamie*.—There is no book published containing the information you want. All that you really need is to use some terpenoid oil of lemon in the soluble essence; but you make the latter too weak, and have too much water in it. Double the quantity of oil, and put in only half the amount of water.

105/34. *F. K.* has a large quantity of Cigar ash, and asks us how he can dispose of it and what use it can be put to. [The usual way of getting rid of the stuff in London is to put it in dustbins—sanitary dustbins by preference—along with other household refuse, and dustmen call for it, more or less regularly, according to the amount of tipping-kindness meted out to them. This is, on the whole, the most satisfactory way of getting rid of the stuff; better than dropping it on the carpet or at the back of the fire, and even better than saving it in a little tray and carrying it out to the back garden to fertilise some poor plant which cannot resist the attention. It is not possible to say what use to put the ash to. There is an old-fashioned notion, still cherished, that cigar-ash makes good tooth-powder. It is alkaline, and gritty, so that to some people's taste it is the ideal tooth-powder. But it is very nasty, and as loyal pharmacists with nice tooth-powders to sell we must decline, with dignity, to foster longer any of these economical and old-fashioned notions.]

100/60. *Quiz's powder for Reducing Corpulence and preventing fatty degeneration* is citric acid, artfully disguised with a little powdered gentian.

105/26. *G. Pedley.*—Milk is Sterilised on the large scale by placing the filled bottles in a large copper pan, the lid of which is so arranged—and, in fact, the whole interior—that the stoppers of the bottles may be closed from the outside. Steam is passed into the pan, and the temperature maintained at 220° F. for about fifteen minutes; then a lever is actuated, whereby the stoppers are pushed home. The milk is not sterilised in bulk, and then filled into bottles, because the bottles would reinfect it with micro-organisms.

106/24. *A. T. R.*—The Electrolytic Removal of Hair is done by specialists, who charge a guinea or more per sitting, and it takes a number of sittings to remove a lady's beard, if it is of such proportions as to warrant removal. If your customer cannot get this done, and depilatories have no effect, try in your best style to sell her a pot of shaving-cream and a shaving-brsh, for in combination with a razor they are the surest means for removing the hair, and need not occupy half the time devoted to a fringe or arranging a graceful top-knot. Nor does it affect the softness of the skin, and if the hair happen to be black, well, that will give you a chance of selling face-powder. Mr. Startin (whose address you will find in our DIARY list of specialists) removes the hair by electrolysis.

96/13. *Oculis.*—Eye-lotion sold by a travelling quack, but "found very useful," is a solution of sulphate of zinc, 1 gr. to the ounce.

89/44. *Sussex.*—The Skin lotion does not contain anything but glycerine and rose-water.

100/12. *Obesity* sends a Mixture for Obesity; the directions are, "A teaspoonful to be taken in a wineglass of water." The mixtnre is simply white-wine vinegar.

102/47. *Capsules.*—The enclosed capsules, a Sure Cure for Rheumatism, contain 5 drops oil of wintergreen each. Have you not omitted the large capsules spoken of in the directions? What we received are two equal-sized small ones.

99/10. *Volk.*—The Egg colouring Powder for cakes seems to be rosein let down very much. A few trials would soon give you the proper strength. Carbonate of soda would be a suitable diluent.

98/51. *R. Taylor.*—Sample of "unusually good" Plate-powder is approximately—

Creta precip.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3vij.
Mag. carb. levig.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Hyd. c. creta	..	..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Misce bene.							

110/54. *Pickles* wants a formula for Pickling Mushrooms. This is hardly in our line, but we remember to have seen them done as follows:—Rub the skins off small button mushrooms by means of salt and a piece of flannel. Put the mushrooms in a stewpan on the fire with a little powdered mace and salt and pepper "to taste," until the liquor flows and is just dried up again; then cover with vinegar and simmer for a minute. They are now ready for storing in jars tied over with parchment-paper.

105/57. *Cale. Bisulph.*—Powder for Preserving "Potted Head" used in the proportion of 2 oz. to 60 lbs. potted head, consists of boracic acid and borax, about 3 parts of the latter to 1 of the former.

115/73 *Inquirer.*—The minimum Standard of Solids in New Milk recognised by the Society of Public Analysts is 11·5 per cent., of which not less than 3 per cent. should be fat. The Somerset Home standard is probably above that.

116/52. *Patent Medicines in Sweden.*—We fear you will not be able legally to introduce your goods into Sweden. Pharmacists in that country are forbidden by law to sell any secret remedies or patent medicines, and none but licensed pharmacists are allowed to carry on business in medicines of any description. Probably the means you now adopt of supplying your customers is the best. Perhaps the enclosure of a handbill in Swedish in each package might further the sale.

103/63. *Quassia.*—Liq. Opii Ammon., B.P.C., is an imitation of Bow's liniment.

98/9. *W. Wade.*—Powder for Redwater in Cattle.—This is the result of our analysis of your sample:—

Potass. nitr.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
P. gentian.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Antim. nigr.	..	..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
P. curcumae	..	..	..	..	..	..	3j.

M.
The dose is two tablespoonfuls, and is usually administered in beer.

104/63. *Saccharin.*—(1) There is no reason why you should not try saccharin for sweetening ssidlitz powders Try the effect of $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. well mixed with the contents of the blue paper. (2) Hair-wash Powder, which "no home should be without":—

Pulv. boracis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3ss.
Rosein	..	..	..	..	..	..	q.s. to tint.
Ol. rosmar.	..	..	..	..	..	..	ml.v.
Ol. encalypt.	..	..	..	..	..	..	ml.j.
Pnlv. camphor.	..	..	..	..	..	..	gr. v.

This powder to be dissolved in the water before washing the head, or mixed with a quart of warm water and well rubbed into the scalp.

We cannot find any perfume or camphor in your sample, but have added them to make the powder suit the envelope.

115/63. *J. W.*—Your son must pass the Preliminary examination in all the subjects—viz., English, Latin, and arithmetic. He must be engaged for three years in dispensing medical prescriptions, but an indentured apprenticeship is not essential. Attendance at Owens College would be useful, but would need to be supplemented by work in a dispensary.

115/63. *Bogie.*—You cannot put citric acid and sugar together without caking; that is why citric acid is used in making granular effervescent preparations. It contains a molecule of water of crystallisation, and this softens a portion of the sugar, so that the syrup formed binds the rest together as a mass. Tartaric acid has not this objection, and you may use it or dry citric acid. The flavours should be triturated with castor sugar, and in the case of raspberry expose it to the air all night to let the spirit evaporate. The real cause of your trouble, however, is the water in the citric acid. It is always the best plan, in regard to lemonade, &c., powders, to dry the ingredients separately before mixing them, and to use tartaric acid only.

116/9. *Subscriber.*—The matter is one in which we cannot advise you, as it is not of general interest. Better consult a local analyst.

115/20. *Mar.*—All that we can tell you about tanning of skins you will find in volume xlvi., page 809 (November 30, 1895).

115/2. *Rusticus.*—You will find a formula for Silver-plating Paste in our issue of February 22, page 303. The quicksilver solution which you refer to is made by dissolving 1 drachm of mercury in 2 drachms of nitric acid, and diluting with 3 oz. of water. This solution deposits mercury when rubbed on brass articles. The deposit quickly tarnishes.

104/11. *A. E. R.*—The Best Precipitant for Hard-water to be used for boilers is slaked lime. The quantity added depends upon the hardness of the water; but if the price of the lime is not a consideration, and a slight excess of the lime is not an objection, you may use slaked lime in the proportion of 10 gr. to the gallon. Thus, for a 250-gallon tank, use $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of slaked lime. Mix well, and allow to stand until clear. You can judge whether too much lime is used by mixing some of the clear water with its own bulk of unprecipitated water. If the mixture becomes milky too much lime has been used. Reduce the quantity of lime to 6 oz. next time, and so on till you hit the proper proportion.

115/6. *J. P.*—Blacking.—See our issue of January 25, page 175.

116/27. *E. H. P.* makes a Writing ink from the following formula:—

Galls	3j.
Gum arabic	3ss.
Cloves	5ss.
Sulphate of iron	3ss.
Water	3vij.

He dissolves the gum and sulphate in half the water, pours the rest of the water (boiling) upon the galls, macerates two days, strains, and mixes. The ink is good at first, but in ten days becomes thick. That is because it is not properly made, and there is too little water in it. Proceed as follows:—Boil the bruised galls and cloves in 16 oz. of water for ten minutes, then allow to simmer at the side of the fire for two hours. Set aside, and strain next morning, washing the marc, if necessary, to get 8 oz. of fluid. To this add the iron sulphate and gum arabic dissolved in 2 oz. of liq. hydriarg. perchlor., cork the bottle, and set aside for ten days before use.

112/6. *T. M. C.*—You will find a formula for miscible chlorodyne in our issue of March 28, page 474; but it does not contain cannabis indica, nor can that be added with advantage.

112/68. *J. S.*—Stone ginger-beer is cloudy when made direct from ginger by infusion. The same appearance is obtained by using tr. zingib. fort., B.P.

112/67. *Verax.*—The lead-and-sulphur lotion is the only one which can be applied to short hair not to stain the skin. There is no dye which will meet the latter requirement.

111/52. *Antefibrin.*—Headache-powders.—The danger of acetanilide is not sufficiently appreciated in the drug-trade. We pointed out, as long ago as January 20, 1894, that 2 gr. of acetanilide is equal to 10 gr. of antipyrin. The following is a safe headache-powder:—

Acetanilidi	gr. iii.
Caffeinae	gr. iss.

M.

For one dose. Not to be repeated within three hours, and not more than twice.

Caffeine has the effect of counteracting the depressing influence which acetanilide has upon the heart.

111/59. *J. B. B.* sends us a sample of Heart-tablets used by several persons in the Huddersfield district for sustaining and steadyng the heart's action. We find them to be tabellæ nitroglycerini, B.P.

111/33. *Tyre*—The Cement for Pneumatic Tyres is, we understand, simply a solution of guttapercha in carbon bisulphide—1 oz. to 5 oz. is a good proportion. The bisulphide may be partially deodorised by shaking with mercury. Vulcaniser's benzoline or berzol is also used as a solvent, and answers very well.

223/17. *Subscriber (Barrow).*—See reply to "Tyre," but are you sure the benzoline rubber solution sells at 8d. per lb.? If so, it cannot contain much guttapercha.

113/48. *J. B.*—Albuminuria is one of the symptoms of Bright's disease and of other troubles. Bright's disease is sometimes cured. We had a call the other day from a well-known chemist who retired from business ten years ago on account of Bright's disease, and he is now hale and hearty. It too often happens that the trouble goes too far before it is discovered, and then there is no curing of it.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

For this section we are always glad to receive from subscribers brief notes on practical subjects, recipes which have been found good; in practice or which have required modification, and hints or fresh ideas on any pharmaceutical or trade matter.

"Lin saponis comp" in Congreve's weaker liniment. I have always dispensed lin. sapo. c. opio for it.

WM. DUGULD (Glasgow).

Truly this is a marvellous age. Where is the cat? "Inquirer" says dispensers use lin. opii for liu. sapo. co.!

FORTY LASHES (London).

[We have the best reason for saying that Mr. Congreve means lin. saponis and not lin. opii.—ED. C. & D.]

Crystallos.—I saw in your issue for a week or so ago an inquiry for crystallos. I copy the following from the American Annual of Photography:—

	Oz.
Sodium-sulphite crystals..	8
Ferrocyanide of potassium	2½
Hydrochinone	1½
Caustic-potash solution (75 per cent.)..	2
Distilled water	28

Dissolve the first three in 20 oz. water; then add potash, and finally rest of water.

The Paris crystallos is tinted red with aniline, but it does not influence it. Dilute 1 to 5 or 8 of water for use.

FRANCIS WHITE.

Re Earwigs in a House.—Miss Ormerod advises hop-growers and farmers, on the subject of earwigs, that ordinary workmen's baskets be left here and there, turned upside down, so that the earwigs take refuge in the folds of the basket, and can be shaken out into water and then dealt with. Perhaps an old clothes-basket might serve similarly for "Perplexed."

W. J. C.

Next Week.

Wednesday, July 15.

Society of Chemical Industry. Annual meeting in Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, E.C., at 10.30 A.M. Luncheon at Cannon Street Hotel, 1 P.M. Reception by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, at the Mansion House, at 9 P.M. Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 8.30 P.M. Botanical meeting.

Thursday, July 16.

Society of Chemical Industry. Excursion to Windsor and Reading, from Paddington, at 9.40 A.M.

Friday, July 17.

Society of Chemical Industry. Visits to Woolwich Arsenal, Siemens' Works, &c. Leave Cannon Street at 9.20 A.M. Reception and dinner in Hotel Cecil, followed by smoking-concert, 7 P.M. Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association. Last botanical excursion for the season to Craigerrook Quarry, led by Mr. J. R. Hill. Start from Caledonian Station at 8.20 P.M.